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# THE COMMUNICATOR

SPRINGHILL
NOVA SCOTIA

## Willie Gibbs Leaves

## The New A.D. Soc.

## WHO IS HE ?

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MEMBER COSMEP
COMMITTEE OF SMALL MAGAZINE EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS
BOX 703 SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94101

# COMPENSATION

Following through with our promise of last issue, we give you the following chapter from THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION OF CANADA's WORKING PAPERS 5 & 6. "RESTITUTION," the article from last issue drew considerable response from our readership. We consider this healthy and look forward to further discussion on these points.

RESTITUTION BY OFFENDERS CANNOT DEAL WITH ALL CASES IN WHICH THERE IS A NEED TO pay back the loss suffered by victims of crime. In some instances an offender may not be able or willing to pay restitution, or, having agreed to pay, may for various reasons be unable to pay all or part of the amount required. In another type of case the offender will not be known or proceedings may not be undertaken because of lack of evidence. Accordingly, there is a need to consider a scheme of compensation from the state to supplement restitution from the offender.

JUSTIFICATION

Compensation for victims of crime can be a valuable tool in supporting the purposes of the criminal law. As suggested in the Commission's working paper, The General Principles of Sentencing and Dispositions, the Commission is of the view that one of the purposes of the criminal law is to protect core values. At the basis of any society is a shared trust, an implicit understanding that certain values will be respected. Some of these values are thought to be so important that they are protected through various provisions of the criminal law. A violation of those values in some cases may not only be an injury to individual rights, but an injury as well to the feeling of trust in society generally. Thus, the law ought not only to show a concern for the victim's injury but also take concrete measures to restore the harm done to public trust and confidence. Public confidence and trust might also be reinforced by prompt police action or dispositions that demonstrate a serious concern for the wrong done. This concern, however, is directed against the offender. Compensation, on the other hand, is directed towards the victim and should not be lost sight of as another meaningful and visible demonstration of societal concern that criminal wrongs be righted.

Before considering whether compensation for criminal injuries should be through the criminal law, social insurance or some other system, it will be helpful to review other arguments sometimes put forward as justifying compensation to victims of crime.

It is stated from time to time that the state, in taxing the citizen to maintain police forces, has reduced the citizen's capacity to protect himself. The actions of the state in its taxing and policing functions, are, undoubtedly, a desirable trade-off against the situation where men would build their own fortresses or turn to the law of the jungle, but part of the trade-off, it is said, should include reasonable compensation for some criminal injuries.

Some schemes for compensation to victims of crime are based purely and simply on sympathy and offer no "rights" to compensation. To care about victims of crime and to offer compensation out of sympathy is understandable, but since caring and sympathy can be swayed by largely personal factors it may be desirable to relate this sympathy to some objective basis that would reduce the risk of favourtism. In some jurisdictions this objective basis is found by requiring proof of "need." While it is difficult to reconcile "need" and the welfare approach with the demands of justice in sentencing, the notion of concern for the individual is worth preserving.

Among the foregoing, arguments are sometimes put that the state, in undertaking to provide security to all members of society, is under a duty to provide compensation when that security fails. It has been pointed out, however, that the state does not

really hold out a promise to protect everyone from all criminal injuries. At most it simply attempts to keep the peace and keep crime to a minimum. These attempts by the state do not give rise to legal promises nor legal rights or duties. At most the state may be under a moral obligation to provide compensation to victims of crime.

Another argument favouring state compensation is based on the proposition that since society generates conditions favourable to crime such as inadequate education and housing or inadequate health services, unequal economic opportunities, or marketing and tax structures that invite avoidance or abuse, society must take the responsibility for compensating those who are injured by crime. An analogy could be made to Workmen's Compensation. In the interests of economic growth society encourages men to work in the presence of risk to life and limb yet compensates those who are injured in doing so. In effect this approach is really one of distributing the losses rather than letting them rest where they fall. In Workmen's Compensation the losses are borne by the industry and not by the injured worker or society generally. The logical consequence of this approach to injuries leads to public insurance schemes under which major losses are covered whether they arise as a result of industrial accident, for example, automobile crash, or crime. The recent New Zealand Accident Compensation Act and the current British Royal Commission on compensation for personal injury are illustrations of this approach.

In a society that places a high value on openness and freedom from pervading police control the argument for social liability for criminal injuries is understandable. However, as will be pointed out shortly, there are good reasons why such a liability should not be discharged through a public insurance scheme, but be closely associated with the criminal justice system.

DELIVERY SYSTEMS

What is the best instrument for achieving the two principal aims of a compensation scheme: namely, to sustain public confidence and trust that core values will be supported and to demonstrate a concern for individual rights and well being? Is it ad-

equate to leave the victim of criminal injuries to his civil law remedy of suing for damages or to private insurance? Not only is a private remedy in tort useless where the offender is not known or cannot be found, it is generally illusory and unprofitable even where the offender is sued. Private insurance also is inadequate not only because it probably leaves out more people than it covers, but also because it does not meet the real problem. At issue is the need for a social response demonstrating concern for the individual well being of the victim and a collective and visible affirmation that certain core values remain important.

Can public insurance schemes serve these objectives? To a certain extent the victim's needs can be met by a variety of social insurance laws including Unemployment Insurance, Workmen's Compensation, Canada Pension Plan, public medical and hospital insurance schemes, or welfare. No doubt the general framework of social insurance, private insurance and tort law are useful parts of an approach that can alleviate the losses of victims of crime. At the same time these measures by themselves are not entirely satisfactory and their benefits are limited. Moreover,it should not be overlooked that, to the extent that the victim does qualify under one or other of these social insurance schemes, he reduces the amount to which he might be entitled in subsequent crises. Even a comprehensive public insurance scheme, such as the one enacted in New Zealand and that under consideration in England, is not an appropriate means of giving compensation to victims of crime.

To place in one scheme compensation for all losses.whether arising from sickness, industrial accident, unemployment, or motor vehicle accident -- to offer compensation for all such injuries without distinction -- may well be undesirable. Do we want to place criminal injuries on the same plane as industrial accidents? To compensate victims of crimes and victims of automobile accidents out of the same insurance scheme may tend to blur the distinction between crime, negligence and accident. To be sure,while the victim of crime receives compensation from insurance officials, the offender may be apprehended or face threatened apprehension and conviction at the hands of the police and courts. Does it raise confusion about the purposes of the criminal law to treat the criminal event, on the one hand, on the same basis as an industrial accident and, on the other hand, threaten punishment of the offender on the basis of his individual responsibility? Compensation to victims of crime can be used to further the purposes of the criminal law and ought not to be lost in social insurance programs aimed at sharing the losses arising from the social and economic policies of society as a whole. That being so, the structures and mechanisms for delivery of compensation to victims of crimes should be related to the criminal law and its processes.

Accordingly, it becomes important that compensation to victims of criminal injuries be connected to the Departments of Justice or Attorneys-General and visibly be seen as an instrument in support of the administration of justice. From this point of view the isolation of the existing compensation to victims of crime legislation can be appreciated. To begin with the legislation exists in only eight of the ten provinces, and is not obviously tied to criminal processes. In some provinces the legislation is administrered by the Department of Labour rather than the Department of Justice or the Department of the Attorney-General. In most provinces the schemes are administrered by administrative boards,and judging by the number of applications for compensation, are relatively unknown to victims. If the purposes of criminal law are to be well served, the compensation boards must be brought visibly to the forefront of the administration of justice and linked to the courts in determining compensation.

Moreover, if the educative function of the criminal law and its concern for individual well-being are to be best served, compensation should be timely. If the monetary payment is to serve as a demonstrable affirmation of the importance of the individual and social values violated by the crime, compensation should be made promptly to restore the faith, confidence and trust that core values be respected. This would have important psychological value for the victim: a timely monetary payment in compensation of loss can substantially reduce the anxiety arising from the injury.

SCOPE

If compensation is to have a correctional component should it be restricted only to crimes of violence as is generally the case under existing provincial schemes for compensation to victims of crimes? Should victims be compensated for property loss? Are offences against property the type of criminal event in which it is desirable not only to see that the victim is compensated but that compensation is through the medium of the criminal law and at state expense? Are commercial frauds the kinds of injuries that the criminal law should be most concerned about, or should they be excluded from compensation on the ground that these are injuries foreseeably arising

out of an enterprise entered into with a view to making a profit? Finally, should the range of victims be extended to include businesses or other corporate persons?

First of all, there can be little disagreement with the view that compensation to victims should cover personal injuries resulting from crimes of violence. Whether compensation should be extended to cover property loss is more difficult. Logically, it can be said that property loss should be covered, since such compensation would support core values, strengthen social bonds, reduce the victim's anxiety and affirm individual rights. On a practical level, however, the cost of compensating property losses would be substantial and funds available for compensation are limited. Since it is justifiable to draw a distinction between laws protecting individual dignity and well being and those protecting property or commercial interests, there can be no doubt that the former should have priority in receiving compensation.

What are the estimates of the cost of extending compensation for loss of property? Property crimes are among the most numerous of all criminal offences. In 1971 in Canada over 800,000 such offences were reported to the police, almost 300,000 of which were theft under $50.00. Considering that over fifty per cent of these latter cases involved losses of less than $25.00 and in other property offences over fifty per cent involved losses of less than $200.00, it is estimated that the loss from property offences, not including auto theft, would be approximately $96,000,000 a year. Over one-half this amount can probably be attributed to losses by corporate victims, and another ten per cent could be paid by offenders actually apprehended and able to make restitution. Thus, apart from losses to corporations and cases where the offender himself can make restitution, compensation claims by individual victims for property loss would still approximate the substantial amount of $40,000,000 annually.

Other disadvantages to extending compensation to property losses can be anticipated. Such a coverage would probably greatly increase the reported crime rate. It is commonly assumed that many property offences are not reported to the police. According to one estimate, for every crime of this type that is reported, another two go unreported. One reason given for such non-reporting is that victims feel it will do no good. Police, they feel, will not be able to apprehend the offender nor recover the goods. Were reporting to be followed by an opportunity to claim compensation, it is likely that reported crimes would greatly increase in number. This may be a disadvantage particularly in a society that wants to encourage individuals to handle minor conflicts on their own.

Furthermore, it is said, extending compensation to crimes involving property loss would encourage numerous fraudulent claims. One way to combat these, would be to rely on police investigation or setting up a claims bureau similar to those operated by the insurance industry. This in turn would result in an increased drain on the tax dollar.

Finally, it is said, property today no longer has the high value it had a hundred years ago. In the "throw away" consumer oriented society of plastic, foam and nylon many consumer items are looked upon as readily replaceable and, indeed, are made for early obsolescence. Under these circumstances, it is said to be only reasonable to exclude property loss from victim compensation schemes.

For these reasons the Commission is opposed at this time, to extending compensation to victims of crimes for property losses in general. The distinction between values promoting individual dignity and well-being as opposed to property interests seems sound.

Still, there are some crimes against property that, in our view, should be considered in much the same light as crimes against the person. Crimes, such as for example, breaking and entering into the home result in injuries to feelings, dignity and persona security as much as crimes against the person. The same can be said of theft from the person. In such cases tangible expression of concern by the state would tend to enhance trust and cohesiveness in society. We are, therefore, of the view that compensation should extend to victims of such crimes. However, theft of property not under an individual's personal control or possession, while still a matter of concern, does not involve an invasion of a person's dignity and personal well-being in the same way. Monetary loss or an invasion of rights of ownership through theft or fraud relate more to protection of economic interests. This seems to be the type of losses for which insurance can adequately protect the victim.

If property losses generally are to be excluded as an item of compensation in criminal injuries there is little to be gained by asking whether corporate or institutional victims should be compensated. Compensating corporations in relation to cri-

mes of personal violence is not an issue: the corporate body does not bleed as ordinary mortals do. In any event, losses from crimes against corporate bodies can be, and are generally adequately covered by insurance or through increased charges and services borne by society generally.

FINANCING

Financing compensation raises other considerations. Restitution, of course, would be paid by the offender to the extent that he was able. Should the offender's resources be such as to make it unrealistic to order full restitution, the victim should be entitled to compensation to cover the outstanding loss. Similarly, when the offender is unable to pay, or is not located and brought to justice,the victim's claims for compensation should be met by the state.

So far as possible money for compensation should be derived from fines or forfeitures imposed in the criminal courts. That is to say, those who commit criminal offences should be the initial source of funds to compensate victims. Even though fines may be expected to give way to restitution in many cases, fines will still be an important sanction. This will be so particularly in crimes against public order where there may be no individual victim. Funds from fines or forfeitures or subrogation could be reserved in a special compensation fund, a caisse d'amendes or a reparation chest. Such a fund would serve as a highly visible reminder that in crime, it is not only the damage to society that must be paid back but the injury to individual victims. Only if the fund is not sufficient to pay adequate compensation should it be supplemented from the federal or provincial treasuries.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing has set forth a position respecting restitution and compensation that would give increased recognition to the victim in the criminal process and encourage a broad look at the criminal event in arriving at a disposition.

It recognizes the contribution the criminal law can make through sentencing and dispositions to preserving that mutuality or shared trust that is the basis of much of civilized society. If the lawless wilfully break the rules that protect core values they ought to be held accountable and provided with the opportunity to restore the harm done to the victim and to the social fabric. When the offender is not available or cannot pay back the harm done, the victim ought not to be left on his own nor should the attack on shared values be left unattended. Rather, through compensation from the state the importance of the individual can be reaffirmed and a concern to uphold common values be visibly demonstrated.

Under existing law much can be done to extend the practice of imposing restitution as a condition of a probation order or of conditional discharge. But more can be done by legislative change to facilitate the position taken in this working paper that restitution be made a central consideration in sentencing and dispositions. Specific recommendations for legislation will be made in the Commission's final report to the Minister and Parliament. More substantial changes in law and practice, particularly at the provincial level, may be needed if compensation and compensation boards are to be visibly linked to the administration of justice. There may also be a need to reconsider the existing administrative structures supporting the court and its services. In this respect the Commission's working paper on Fines and Their Enforcement is also relevant.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our next issue will contain the Commission's working paper on "Principles in the Imposition of Fines." Again, we thank Mr. Keith Jobson of the Law Reform Commission for his continued interest and support.

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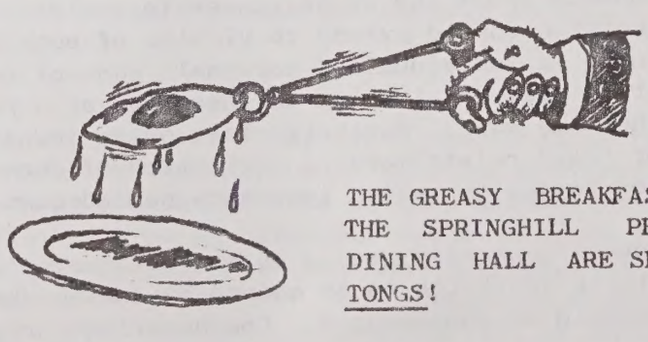
Believe It, If You Can!



THE GREASY BREAKFAST EGGS IN THE SPRINGHILL PENITENTIARY DINING HALL ARE SERVED WITH TONGS!

# GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

# NUMBER EIGHT UNIT

**by Joe MacNeil**

"OH, THE GAMES PEOPLE PLAY NOW,
EVERY NIGHT AND EVERY DAY NOW."

Yes, NUMBER EIGHT is on a games kick: some of the guys volunteered their services to form a games committee, headed by ROBERT ANDERSON. The guys have put on quite a variety of games and tournaments over the past two weeks, and this is only a start, as bigger and better plans are being made all the time.

WELDON BAGNALL is our crib champion as he nosed out "GOFER" GILLIS in the finals. TOM McELVENEY and MURRAY CRUICKSHANK were the chess finalists with Tom eventually winning. GERRY RUSHTON and PAUL BUSHFAN are the "200" champs with the honors in whist going to PETE STUBBARD and JIM PETERS.

We've had several dart tournaments and the most consistant winners have been GERRY PAUL in singles, and he and CHUCK PARNELL in doubles.

We have some volunteer teachers in the Unit now, as ROGER GAGUEN is willing to give guitar lessons to anyone who is interested. GERRY RUSHTON will try to teach a few card games;he seems to think he knows how to play.

We had a discussion at our Unit meeting last Friday, and we decided to move our color t.v. off our "G" range. We're replacing it with a ping-pong table, some card tables, and a variety of games -- compliments of our Games Committee. Next week we're going to have a spinning wheel, ring toss, bean bag, and a bingo game. It's going to be a regular three ring circus up there.

Our Unit hockey team is doing very well as we finished the season in 2nd place, with a 3 and 3 record. PETE STUBBARD somehow managed to amass enough points to be our leading scorer, with TOM BOONE coming second. MURRAY CRUICKSHANK managed a shut-out in the only game he played, giving him a perfect goals-against-average.

In the semi-finals, we beat NUMBER 9 in two straight games, 5-4 and 10-3. We now play NUMBER 11 for the Institution championship. Our coach, AL BARRIE, is just reeking in confidence as he thinks things look good for us. Leading playoff scorers so far are PETE STUBBARD, TIM BOONE, and BERT ROUT.

Good news on the dart front: our team as of February 9th, is in first place. High average on the team belongs to CHUCK PARNELL, hitting 44.3 on each shot. He also holds high singles scoring at 137, with DOUG SWINAMER following close behind at 134.

FOOTNOTES IN THE SAND

JOHN MacLEOD started a new trend with his very close haircut.... We hope he doesn't catch a cold in the top of his head.... Rumour has it that EARL AUCOIN is going to be the singing star of the variety show we're presenting in the Unit next week-end.

I hope our girl-friend, Chinnammal, doesn't find those pictures we sent her in India too hard to take....

The NEWFIES seem to have the bingo games under control, as MURRIN and LAWLOR picked up a few prizes last week.

BERT ROUT and JACKIE PAUL should be wearing new hats, as they picked up three goals each against NUMBER 9.

Our films were ordered from the National Film Board, and we expect to be showing them from Feb. 20th to July 10th.

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'WORKING TOGETHER WITH
THE MALE OFFENDER'

# California Appeals Court Favors A Limited Right to Jail Escapes

By LACEY FOSBURGH
Special to The New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 19-- A CALIFORNIA COURT HAS RULED THAT, UNDER SOME LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES, A PRISONER IS RIGHT TO ESCAPE FROM JAIL

In a 4,000-word decision, overturning the ruling of the trial court, the California Court of Appeal recently ruled that, in some instances, the threat of homosexual rape is fearsome enough to justify a prisoner's seeking to escape from jail to avoid the attack.

The ruling, which is couched in terms of civil liberties, is the first since an English case in 1736, the court said, to raise the possibility that living conditions in prison can become so intolerable that the inmate has the "human" right to leave.

In all prior cases, the decision said, "inhumane" living conditions have been held not to justify escape and, furthermore, the attitude of those courts toward the plight of the inmates ranged, it said, from "benign neglect to dynamic inertia."

The decision, written by presiding Justice Robert Gardner of the Court of Appeal, Fourth District, in southern California, is being appealed to the state supreme court by the Attorney General's Office.

Significantly, however, the appeal is not based on the ground that "necessity to escape" as it is called, is not a legal defense. Instead, it asserts that the justice's opinion may simply have been too broad.

"It's a fascinating case," said Conrad D. Petermann, the deputy state Attorney General. "Things are tough in prison and this complaint, that conditions can justify an escape, has been brought many times before, but never successfully. Maybe now its time has come and it will be a new defense."

Justice Gardner himself tried to warn against this interpretation. "We do not concede that we have created a new defense to the escape charge," he wrote. "We merely recognize as did an English court 238 years ago that some conditions 'excuseth the felony' of escape."

However, he wrote earlier, "before Lovercamp (the name of the case)becomes a household word in prison circles, and we are exposed to the spectacle of hordes of prisoners leaping over the walls screaming 'rape,' we hasten to add that the defense of necessity to an escape charge is extremely limited in its application.

The chief restriction Justice Gardner placed on its admissibility was that the prisoner must have sought virtually every recourse to protect himself from the sexual attack before choosing to escape.

Furthermore, upon escaping, he must turn himself over to the authorities as soon as possible.

The case is based on the escape of Marsha Lovercamp and Linda Wynashe from a narcotics rehabilitation center in southern California where they, as potential addicts, were sent for compulsory treatment. They were recaptured almost immediately.

Justice Gardner described the situation this way:

"They were threatened continuously by a group of lesbian inmates who told them they were to perform lesbian acts or be physically beaten. They complained to the authorities several times and, finally, escaped to save themselves."

# U.S. JUDGE UPHELD ON YOUNG INMATES

## Appeals Court Says Release of 280 Is Justified

By MAX H. SEIGEL

THE SECOND CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS UPHELD UNANIMOUSLY A FEDERAL DISTRICT JUDGE WHO RELEASED 280 YOUTHFUL OFFENDERS last June because they had been sentenced to four years in a reformatory for misdemeanors that would have brought adults only up to a year in prison.

The District Court judge, Morris E. Lasker had ruled that the longer, uniform reformatory sentences were unconstitutional because they denied the young offenders, aged 16 to 21, equal protection of the law under the 14th Amendment.

The decision is expected to assure that the youths will remain free. The appeals court also upheld Judge Lasker's decision to allow a class-action suit on the issue.

The findings, in a 31-page decision written by Chief Judge Irving R.Kaufman, marked the first approval by a Federal appeals court to the linking of a class-

action suit to a mass release through a writ of habeas corpus.

Under a New York penal law that was repealed last May, special sentences of unspecified duration were decreed for most young adults. The terms would end either upon discharge on parole, or after four years of confinement.

The special sentences were thought to be justified as a way to effect special rehabilitative goals.

DISTINCTION ENDED

But the Court of Appeals noted that in 1970 the correction law had been amended to abolish the distinction between reformatories and prisons, and that "the statutory scheme no longer provided young adults with educational or vocational training different from that offered adult prisoners."

As a result, Judge Lasker ordered the unconditional discharge of those who had already served terms that adults would normally receive, and provided for resentencing those who had not within 30 days.

An attempt by the State Department of Correction to stay the order was rejected by the Court of Appeals.

The appeals court declared that it had found no support for the state's argument that younger offenders were sent to special facilities or were given special programs.

It added that a review of State regulations showed that there was no segregation of adults from young adults within the various facilities; that all inmates, regardless of the type of sentence being served, were subject to the same rules and that there was no assurance for any young adult that he would remain in -- or even be sent to -- a facility for young adults.

While agreeing with Judge Lasker's release of 280 youthful offenders, the appeal court remanded for further study his release of those youthful offenders whose total time in custody, including incarceration and parole, exceeded the maximum adult sentence. It did so on the ground that it had not been determined whether the parole services available to the young might not be of such a nature as to warrant a longer period of parole.

* * * * *

Finding jobs for ex-cons

"Let's Face It"

Moncton, NB.

# Is the Pigeon Always Right?

## by Edgar Z. Friedenberg

Edgar Z. Friedenberg, Ph.D., has been Professor of Education at Dalhousie University since 1970, when he came to this country from the United States as a landed immigrant. He was educated at Stanford University and the University of Chicago; and served as Professor of Sociology at the University of California (Davis) and the State University of New York at Buffalo before coming to Canada. He is the author of The Vanishing Adolescent, Coming of Age in America, The Dignity of Youth and Other Atavisms and, most recently, R.D. Laing, a monograph of the Modern Masters Series devoted to the work of the distinguished Scottish existential psychiatrist.

Mr. Friedenberg honours us by permitting the COMMUNICATOR to publish his writings. This is the second of his articles to appear within our pages, and he has indicated that he will continue to demonstrate his interest through this kind of interaction with us. This article first appeared in RAMPARTS MAGAZINE -- another publication that knows quality when they see it.

THE USE OF PSYCHOTECHNICAL PROCEDURES AND DEVICES TO MODIFY HUMAN BEHAVIOR HAS become commonplace. Schools, prisons, mental hospitals, and increasingly -- as the appalling disclosures of Amnesty International reveal -- the national state itself, rely on such means to socialize and control those subject to them. Many of us feel both alarmed and confused by the extensive array of practices now used. The technical manipulation of human behavior and attitudes has become institutionalized in so many different ways that it is hard to be sure just what is taking place. And not all the objectionable practices are objectionable for the same reasons.

For example, people who object to the use of behavior modification programs in schools often go on to complain of the widespread use of mood-altering drugs like Ritalin to control the behavior of children teachers find disruptive, using the pretext that they are "hyperkinetic." The two practices thus tend to become linked. But the use of drugs to control disruptive behavior is utterly inconsistent with the doctrines of behavior mod, which would regard this as a very gross and not really psychological way of controlling human behavior, having nothing in common with operant conditioning. This does not, of course, mean that school personnel who are pragmatic and insensitive may not use both, but their effect on the person subjected to them, and the reason for condemning their use, is quite different.

Drugs are used, sometimes with fiendish cruelty, in aversive therapy, of which the most familiar example is the treatment portrayed in A Clockwork Orange. Aversive therapy is a form of behavior modification and an abhorrent one --and its use seems to be spreading. One proposed program which was to have been introduced into a prison in North Carolina last year was aborted by the courts on constitutional grounds; but others making use of forms of negative reinforcement that sound equally cruel are continually being developed.

Orthodox proponents of behavior mod, however, usually don't think too much of aversive therapy. The doctrine holds, on the basis of a great deal of evidence from animal experimentation, that positive reinforcement is a much more effective form of operant conditioning than negative reinforcement which if severe is likely to so disturb or antagonize the subject that he or she won't learn anything from it. Strict behaviorists prefer to "extinguish" behavior they regard as undesirable by ignoring it or isolating its practitioner,while rewarding each successive approximation of the behavior they are trying to foster.

This similarity to accepted social practice leads most behaviorists to insist that behavior modification is really nothing new; it's something all of us do every day in the course of ordinary social interaction. But this is false. Families, schools, prisons, and society itself do, of course,make use of rewards and punishments more or less systematically to train people to do what the authorities want; and they always have. But there are fundamental differences between the use of rewards and punishments in socialization and the use of positive and negative reinforcement in behavior modification.

(THE POWER TO WILL)

The most important difference has to do with the function of the will, which is basic to the western concept of morality. Our moral system holds that both good and evil must be willed; one cannot sin inadvertently, and there can be no crime without criminal intent. Traditional moralists therefore think of themselves not as encouraging desirable behavior and discouraging undesirable behavior, but as "teaching children the difference between right and wrong." The most authoritarian moralists, steeped in the doctrine of original sin, often used to speak of the need to "break the will of the child," forcing the child through guilt or fear to repress impulses they deemed evil, which included most spontaneous and natural behavior.

Nobody does anything like this to a laboratory rat or a pigeon; and so far the behaviorists would seem to occupy the higher moral ground. And they certainly have the easier technical problems. The Victorians, if I may use that term loosely and none-too-accurately to identify older-fashioned moralists, could make very little use of positive reinforcement, since they were trying to establish norms at the same time that they were trying to influence behavior; that is, they were trying to teach people what they ought to enjoy at the same time they were trying to get them to do it. But to serve as positive reinforcement the reward offered,however trivial, must be genuinely prized already -- the pigeon, as behaviorists sometimes say, is always right. Victorian moralism at its worst sought to use the same occasions both to offer rewards and to define those rewards as desirable -- a technical error no Skinnerian would be likely to make. Good little boys won prizes that could hardly have given them much satisfaction: edifying books that no one could read with pleasure; minor posts in school or church that cost them more status among their peers than they gained among adults. The phrase "brownie points" for status so earned still conveys the position exactly.

This is clearly one reason for the emphasis on competitive sports in British public-school life, both as a means of socialization and of selecting future leaders. For of course success on the playing fields did confer status in the peer group as well as among adults, and was ardently desired. It could be won, moreover,only by displaying a mixture of guile and brutality that established clearly that the sanctimonious lessons of official morality had not been so thoroughly internalized as to disqualify the student for future public service. England's battles were won on the playing fields of Eton in the sense that these provided a crucial testing ground for identifying those young members of the ruling class who could combine the most essential ingredients of a vice-regal presence: sanctimonious adherence to an honorable creed; and the ability and disposition to kick the shit out of an adversary, especially one beyond the pale, literally or figuratively. By weighing points won on the playing field more heavily than brownie points, pre-World War 1 society insured itself against awarding actual positions of leadership to people who conformed too daintily to moral precepts.

Much of what we sense as freedom in western bourgeois life stems, however, from precisely this moralistic, inconsistent, and thoroughly Skinnerian use of reward and punishment -- not to modify behavior, but to "build character." For this traditional use carries within itself the seeds of rebellion that have permitted Western Civilization to redeem itself from time to time. The essence of the traditional approach is that socialization requres that morality be internalized; that the child or the prisoner or the revolutionary be ultimately led to accept and endorse the creed of his subjectors -- to agree with them about the difference between right and wrong. Thereafter, his conscience or his superego, however one wished to view it, is at the disposal of society; he has become his own narc. Crime and sin, conversely, can thereafter be defined as, necessarily, willful acts and their perpetrators as guilty.

When this sort of socialization fails, it may fail absolutely, as with members of the counterculture who, having come to despise the promised rewards of affluence, can no longer be threatened by poverty; though as they grow older they may find their exclusion from a meaningful role in society less supportable than their austere standard of living. These are the children who were socialized primarily by offering them rewards they were expected to learn to enjoy, whether they wanted them or not, in order to make their place in the middle class. When they were punished, they were punished by withholding these same rewards whose denial was ambiguous in its effects. This applies even to withholding affection - the standard middle-class punishment - which can be devastating to an infant or even to an older child before adjusting to it. But our recollections of our mothers must remind us that there comes a time when almost any child of six or older may feel about her threat to take her leave of him much as Hamlet did about Polonius's similar threat. Punishment affords many middle-class children about the only privacy they ever get.

Socialization that seeks to use conventional rewards as positive reinforcement before it has established that they are, in fact, rewards, is likely to come unstuck, strewing society with rebels, hippies, and other protagonists of freedom. Even when it does not come unstuck as completely as that, the fact that our

normal socialization attempts to mold the will -- rather than simply elicit desirable behavior -- leaves the will dormant but intact and ready, if sufficiently provoked, to pit itself against society. As Lawrence Kohlberg has shown in his fundamental work on the development of moral awareness in human beings, those few who reach the highest levels of moral awareness become enemies of society through the very effectiveness of their socialization: they are people who have actually internalized the values of the society rather than its rules. These include of course, the nobler leaders of the peace and civil rights movements, who had been so well socialized into the western tradition that they accepted and acted upon the fact that sin must be willful and includes, especially, willful obedience to evil law. At this point, self-awareness and moral insight converge with a blinding flash and sometimes explosive violence, illuminating the institutions of a corrupt and unjust society and shaking them to -- and sometimes from -- their foundations.

(BEYOND FREEDOM)

All this could be avoided by the widespread use of behavior modification, which does not seek to mold or develop the will, but to avoid probate. Behavior mod evades as far as possible questions of guilt, sin, intent, or moral judgement. It makes no appeals to conscience and shows no punitive intent. This is why the scientists to whom Alex is delivered in A Clockwork Orange seem so much nicer than the jailors do. But in fact they are much crueler, not because they wish to punish him more severely, but because they do not care about him at all except as the object of their psychotechnology. He can neither seduce them, nor arouse their pity or their rage. Where the prison officials represent as best they can a lower-middle-class vision of the wrath and occasionally the pity of God, exacting from Alex in return an unbearable semblance of piety, the scientists at the institute exemplify His absence, a severer form of Hell. They cannot be placated, obeyed, or disobeyed; and they are not trying to teach Alex anything about the difference between right and wrong. They are simply trying to condition him so that he can no longer respond violently in any situation, whatever its moral context.

But this is aversive therapy which, though a form of operant conditioning, is not representative of most programs of behavior modification. What distingues behavior mod is not the use of bizarre techniques to inflict pain. It is rather the attempt to evoke the behavior sought through "reinforcing" it and "extinguishing" undesired alternatives while deliberately avoiding the moral confrontation involved. The outcome sought is conformity without conflict and without the need or perhaps even the capacity for moral judgement. One could even, of course, develop an apparent "non-conformity" in this way by responding favorably to a child's attempts to argue and "answer back" and to go off and "do his own thing" while ignoring his efforts to be cooperative and join the group. One could encourage a child's -- or an adult's -- propensities for artistic or musical expression while cooling out his or her interests in and abilities in sport; or, of course, vice-versa.

Isn't this, then, precisely what goes on for better or for worse in the process of normal socialization? Isn't this how little boys learn not to cook and sew and little girls learn not to play football? Isn't this the way liberal Jewish parents raise radical Jewish children? I would say no, not by a damned sight. For in all cases, the emotional and moral influences that mold the child are authentically and spontaneously present, for better or for worse, in the family and the culture as it is encountered; and the spontaneity and authenticity contribute to growth and mediate constraint; they are lively irritants. Every culture establishes certain roles and encourages those aspects of development that suit individuals to fill them, while discouraging others. But a culture is not a conspiracy; and the boy whose parents are trying to reinforce his limited interests in football may well have a brother who is a disappointment to his family -- but not to himself -- because he is a poet; a sister who is a policewoman, and an uncle who, as chef de cuisine at Le Parvenu, has the highest status in the family.

Even today, the world is a lot less ordered than a psychological laboratory, or a school in which children are given candy tokens for promptness or achievement and ignored if they are late or dilatory. Furthermore, there are errant and rebellious teachers just as there are students. Jim Herndon still teaches in Daly City, and manages to survive in his native land even though things ain't the way they're supposed to be. When Tierra Firma Junior High converts to behavior mod, they won't be able to keep him any more; and students who don't want their behavior modified will have no more places to hide.

Since the world is rife with oppression, conflict, and injustice, neither the school nor the family is likely to be free of them; and a child who had been so singularly fortunate as never to have encountered them there would probably find adult life astonishingly uncomfortable. Nevertheless, even at their worst, the school and the family, like the Austrian bureaucracy under the later Hapsburgs, are usually redeemed by their inefficiency and inconsistency, which make it possible to learn to be a human

being there as elsewhere in the world. In a school that deals with pupils according to principles of behavior modification this would be far less likely; since how the teachers, and so far as possible, schoolmates, respond to a child is programed in advance with the intent of encouraging behavior defined by the school as socially desirable and starving out that which is less desirable. His experience of how other people respond to him becomes very limited: he may never learn, for example, how angry he makes them if his teachers have decided that displays of anger reinforce offensive behavior by providing recognition, and prescribe a good, hard ignoring instead.

Behavior modification is planned to mold desirable behavior directly, without rooting it in character or ethical purpose. It seeks to operate at Kohlberg's lowest level of moral judgement: behavior is good because it is rewarded. This is a serious denial of the humanity of the person subjected to it. But I think, to be fair, one must also state that this is the worst that can be said of it. As I have indicated, orthodox practitioners of behavior modification are less likely to be punitive than ordinary teachers or parents, because they have found negative reinforcement is an inefficient and unreliable way of extinguishing undesired behavior. This is not as satisfactory a reason for avoiding it as respect for the dignity of the victim; but it does mean that a school in which children are strapped or drugged in order to control their behavior is about as far from behavior mod as it can get.

There are other objections, however, Behavior modification programs by their very nature rely heavily on extrinsic rewards; and those rewards, unlike school grades, are not even supposed to be granted in recognition of excellent performance but simply as pleasurable reinforcement for behavior desired by someone else. You can, indeed, train a pigeon to execute a complicated dance perfectly by the pure application of behavior modification techniques; indeed, there is probably no other way to do it. But such a pideon cannot be said to have developed an interest in ballet. Everybody knows the old statistical saw about 20 chimpanzees locked up in a room with 20 typewriters and an inexhaustible supply of paper would eventually write, among other things, War and Peace. If the primate lab were run according to the principles on behavior mod, and each primate reinforced for every phase that resembled one of Tolstoi's, the task might be accomplished in 50 years. It would not leave the monkeys in a frame of mind, however, to go ahead and tackle Anna Karenina on their own.

Children educated by the techniques of behavior modification may not even know what ordinary people mean by being interested in something they do well. It must be conceded, however, that school grades which, in any case, are as extrinsic as the tokens or bits of candy that successful participants in behavior mod programs usually get, have also come to have almost as little to do with achievement and interests, as academic standards are adapted to meet the strains imposed by demographic and cultural change. An 'A' in a New York City high school today has about as much meaning as the free rum drink most Caribbean hotels give arriving guests to make them feel at home and avert culture shock.

(PUSHBUTTON MORALITY)

Much more serious ethical questions arise, however,with reference to aversive therapy. Although aversive therapy always involves negative reinforcement by doing something disagreeable and often agonizing or terrifying to the client on whom it is being practiced,it is totally different in its intent and psychological function from torture, and should be clearly distinguished from it. I think it is worse, though the choice of the lesser of two such evils is hardly worth making.

The painful stimuli used in aversive therapy are usually much less severe than those used in torture -- though not always; both have made use of certain drugs that arrest respiration and arouse the feeling of impending death by suffocation, which is probably the ultimate in terror. But the torturer at least respects his victim to the extent of attributing to him a will to be broken; though with modern techniques which disorient the victim as they torment him, he hasn't much chance to resist in the long run. Torturers, moreover, do not usually want to alter their victim's mode of behavior in general, but have very specific ends. They want to extract a confession or information, and the less the victim is altered in the process the more plausible the confession will be. Torture is nearly always clandestine; and its revelation is an embarrassment to its practitioners. Its prevalence in the present era is, I should judge, essentially evidence of the dignity constitutional democracy once possessed, as well as of its decline. It flourishes in situations in which people still suppose themselves to possess certain rights that have in fact vanished, but have never been taken off the books. To achieve a final and conclusive victory, the torturer finds it most helpful if he can bring his victim into open court to deny that he has been tortured.

Aversive therapy differs from torture

in almost all these respects. It is not clandestine, though the actual details may be played down for PR purposes. The existence of the program, however, is not denied; in fact it is usually reported as a sign of technical progress in therapy or criminology. Those who accept aversive therapy usually are called volunteers, though in fact they offer themselves under extreme social coercion -- usually under the threat of becoming a social outcast. And it is used only under one set of circumstances.

Aversive therapy can be applied only to mess up and spoil something that gives the client or patient great pleasure, but that gets him into enough trouble that he is willing to allow that pleasure to be spoiled by being mixed with other sensations sufficiently disagreeable to overwhelm it, and possibly him as well. It differs from the use of ordinary criminal sanctions in that, like other forms of behavior modification, aversive therapy seeks to evade rather than to develop the will. The person whose behavior has been successfully modified by aversive therapy does not restrain himself from committing punishable actions that still entice him through rational or irrational fear of punishment; but because the pleasure they give him has been spoiled by being repeatedly and consistently mixed with nausea, anxiety, humiliation, pain, or any combination of these, and by his own at least tacit consent. The alcoholic accepts an injection of apomorphine in a gruesome mock-up of a bar, drinks, and throws up; or allows his body to be injected with chemicals which insure that drink will make him deathly ill. Men who have raped children or fear that they might, and even homosexuals, permit psychologists to wire them up and give them electric shocks as they are shown pictures that arouse them sexually. The effect of such programs with adults is likely to be transitory; since they are taking part in them precisely because they are already well-aware that alcohol or heroin, whatever damage they may ultimately cause, do not make them feel acutely ill; nor do they experience pain when they touch a child or a person of the same sex, as the case may be. What is likely to endure is a sense of permanent humiliation at having allowed one's body, and its precious capacity for diversive satisfaction, to be violated in the interests of confirming a social norm; instead of having used one's essential strength both to assert and to contain one's actual proclivities. Nothing saps the will, including the will to socially-defined misconduct, like self-betrayal.

There is one experience that is familiar enough to many adults -- especially males, since girls are less frequently subjected to it in most families -- to give them some idea of the psychological processes involved in aversive therapy, if childhood amnesia has not screened away the memory of the feelings involved. Spanking is a true, though prescientific means of aversive therapy. This seems obvious where the victim's offense was masturbation or some other form of sexplay, since the effect is to abruptly replace pleasurable erotic sensations with others even more intense that are accompanied by enough humiliation and loss of autonomy to ruin the culprit's satisfaction. Whatever he gets spanked for, the child has to deal with the humiliation of being "turned on" by his assailant in a degradation ceremony in which pain, though nearly lost in the welter of sensations being aroused in him, is the only one that is socially validated; the others are extinguished. To show any awareness of lustful pleasure would be to compound his offense with impertinence and risk being really hurt; as well as exquisitely inappropriate to an occasion formally defined as dolorous. Spanking works by invoking sexuality only to invalidate and mock it; the message is that the victim has gotten too big for his britches, which are removed to facilitate the operation. It also hurts, but not much; only enough to underline insult with token injury. But the wellsprings of his pleasure are defiled, and with his consent. Children must submit to spanking, if only under threat of more severe and protracted punishment;and are expected to feel that it has done them good.

Aversive therapy can only be used in conjunction with pleasure to be spoiled. The merely coercive use of pain or the threat of pain may or may not alter behavior, but it isn't aversive therapy. In this respect spanking is closely analogous to the use of nausea to spoil the pleasure of problem drinkers and hence eliminate their misbehavior; because paddling -- indeed, like drinking -- is also an old-fashioned rite de passage in our culture, and one which the victim is expected to recognize and accept as sportive, if not entirely playful, and certainly as more friendly than punitive, even though it is much more severe than spanking. It has been the commonest means of initiation into groups of young males and even of marking the passage of birthdays. Its function, in fact, is just the opposite of disciplinary spanking, as social drinking is the precise contrary of aversive therapy for alcoholics.

Though, like alcohol, it takes a while to learn to enjoy it, paddling helps make the initiation a Dionysian revel. It validated the initiate's sexual maturity. The active, slightly elder brothers, vigorously asserting their droit de seigneur, provided him with an unmistakable sense of his own potency and

a powerful prophylaxis against the cold showers his parents and teachers were still recommending to reduce his new sexual urgency. In this way, the erogenous zones were declared officially open for business or pleasure, though some confusion might later arise about object-choice; sexuality's inconvenient links with violence, domination, and submission were unduly and unfortunately emphasized, along with the initiate's tendencies to become, like his brothers, a male chauvinist pig. They, of course, called this making a man of him.

Most of this is now happily behind us, as social taboos have shifted from the area of sex, the family has lost its authority and even some of its authoritarianism, colleges have begun declaring for open enrollment, and fraternities have given up the ghost even where they have retained the charter. Spanking, though children are still subject to it, has now become one of many techniques sex manuals recommend as possible ways for men and women to get to know one another better. I have used this example despite its welcome obsolescence because it seems to me likely to be accessible to more readers -- themselves I presume, largely reared and educated in an earlier era -- and effective in making it clear why I think aversive therapy is fundamentally mean-spirited and hostile to life, however imposingly scientific it may appear and however unpleasant the behavior it seeks to modify may be.

Meanwhile, our conflicts have moved into other areas. Are there now schools in which teachers are positively reinforcing friendly contacts between white children and black, while programmatically ignoring or mildly discouraging the development of intra-ethnic friendships? I have not seen such a program described; but I wish I thought it more unlikely. Has anybody applied for a LEAA grant for a program in which policemen would shoot at effigies of black adolescents in apparent flight with a handgun designed to give them a nasty shock each time they pulled the trigger? I hope not. The brotherhood of man may be -- probably is -- a hopelessly unattainable vision; but it should be made of sterner stuff than a conditioned response.

Behavior modification provides some highly effective techniques for reducing the occurrence of undesirable behavior; and there is certainly plenty of it to be reduced. But it offers itself as an inauthentic substitute for love and will, and hence is essentially frivolous about existence. It may be, in some instances, a useful tool; but it leaves its practitioners in the moral predicament of having used a tool on people they should have responded to as total beings. That just isn't, in 1974, what we need more of.

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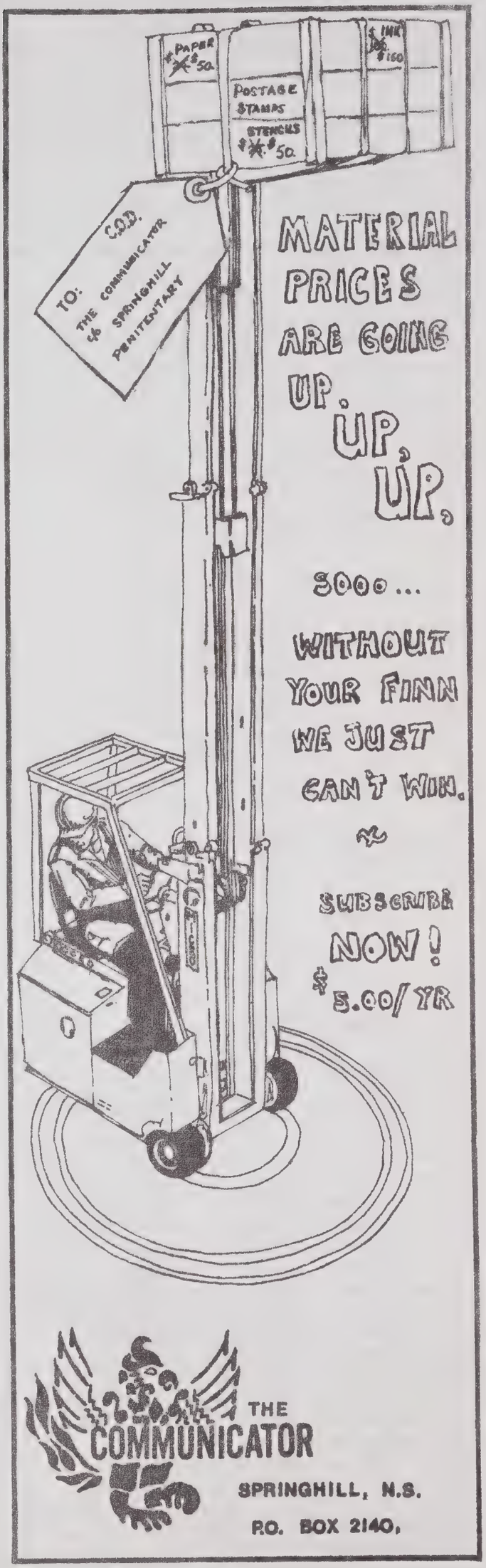


GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

# Number Nine Unit

**By David L. Crossman**

IN NUMBER NINE THERE HAVE ONLY BEEN A few activities over the last few weeks. It seems that the only interest most of the guys have is to watch television.

Besides television, we have a few more people becoming involved in playing darts. We moved the dart boards from the "G" range lounge, downstairs to the old card room, and from the numbers of people using the dart-room, it seems to have been a good move.

We have nightly card games going on between the guys in the Unit, and although there are only a few of the ranges represented in these games, there are a number of different faces showing up each night to play -- which probably means that the games are catching on.

The card games are started by the guys themselves, and the only rewards for playing are those that come from the satisfaction of having played well.

On Tuesday, February 4th, we had an outside team of dart players come in to play an all-star team with representatives from each of the four units. It was an interesting event to watch because the teams were very evenly matched, and it was hit-and-miss who was going to end up on top. After all checking on scores had been done at the end of the evening, it was our All-Stars that came out on top.

The guys on the All-Star Dart Team deserve congratulations for their good shooting and competiveness. We really enjoyed having the outside players come in to play us, and it is hoped they will want to come back.

Last but not least, is the Unit Hockey Team; from all reports, our guys are really doing well, and are leading in points --as well as having the top point getters. Keep up the good work guys, and may you all retire as the hockey champions this year.

There isn't much more that I can report on in the Unit, but, hopefully, there will be some new activities that will deserve mention in the near future.

# EDITORIAL JOTTINGS

**BOB EBY**

LAST ISSUE I GOT INTO DESCRIBING CIRCUMSTANCES THAT WERE WORKING AS HINDERANCES to our bringing certain changes to the COMMUNICATOR; well, Folks, changes are a-comin' -- both for the COMMUNICATOR and the Institution in general.

The COMMUNICATOR has taken on three new staff members. We've managed to acquire an artist by the name of SHAWN CAMPBELL and are expecting to see more original and artistic input in future issues.

IVAN PARACY expects to be going into retirement in the next month or so, after having broken his butt doing all of the layout work, business and correspondence, and production work on his own, and we had to go out looking for a replacement for him. Now, I don't know what kinds of recommendations a man needs to get to gain recognition for his worth outside, but this particular man is being replaced by TWO men -- and they are both good men, so I guess that says it all about Uncle Ivan.

The two new dudes to the COMMUNICATOR are DAVID BLOOMFIELD and JOHN ETTINGER. David will be taking over as Associate Editor with yours truly, and John will be doing the typing of the galley-proofs and writing articles for us. Both are artistically inclined and are into the kind of communication the COMMUNICATOR strives for. With some of the workload being shared by these two people, I believe we will improve the quality of the COMMUNICATOR by at least a couple-of-hundred percent within the next few months. Hope you will be watching because constructive criticism and suggestions are always welcome, and helpful.

The Institution in general will be going through its changes over the next few months too. With WILLIE GIBBS having left for a posting in Ottawa, the Assistant Director (Socialization)'s job is open. I don't pretend to know how these postings get filled but, for the time being, BOB CHILDS will be the Acting-Assistant Director until an assignment is made for the job.

Mr. Child's position as Head of Living Units will be filled on an acting basis also. CHRIS MURPHY has filled the position over the last month or so, and is now being replaced by SUSAN FERN. Chris is leaving the C.P.S. in June to teach at St. Xavier University and this will leave an opening in NUMBER NINE unit for a new Classification Officer. And that, Friends, is what social change is all about: people. With the changes going down in the staff over the last couple of months, I believe we can expect to see various thematic changes in the Institution. Being the optimist I am, I am looking forward to seeing new approaches to old problems, and hope to be able to keep you up to date on what's happening.

EDGAR FRIEDENBERG's article in this issue is another contribution by this most respected social-commentator. The COMMUNICATOR is proud to be able to publish his writings, and Mr. Friedenberg has indicated he will be doing an article for us next issue based on his observations at the Dalhousie Law Faculty conference. I am personally looking forward to reading his comments as I, too, was there and came away with a certain perspective that does not bode well for the future of "corrections" -- should that read "corrections" in the Maritime provinces?

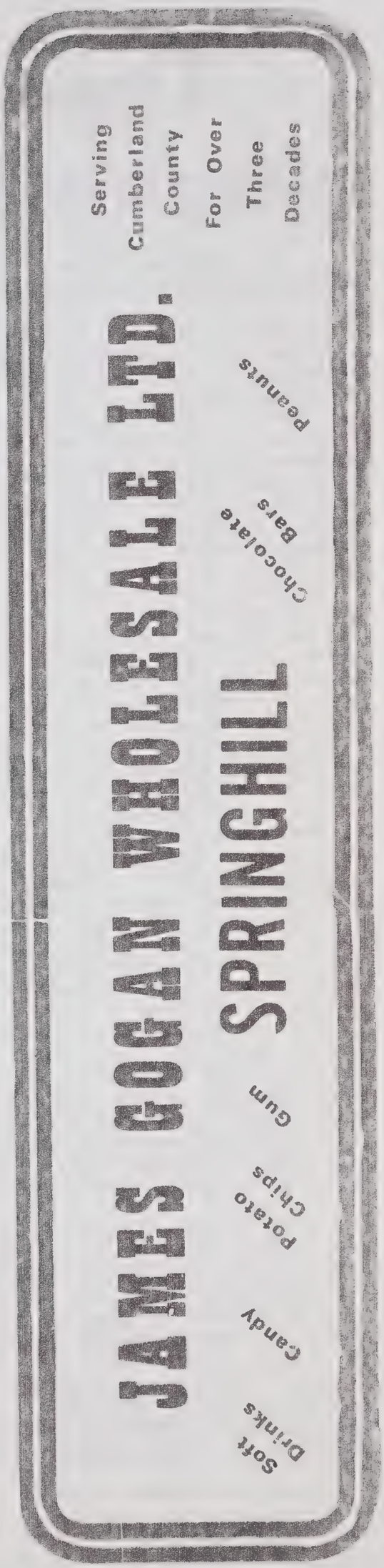
There have been a couple of new projects started up over the last month or so. Both are, in this writer's opinion, excellent ideas and I am expecting to hear good things about these projects over the next few months.

The Jaycees have started an "Encounter" group and will be inviting outside groups in to meet with our guys. The programme is mainly aimed at getting some of the guys that don't get many visits in here in touch with outside people. I think this project has every chance of success and I'm looking forward to hearing plenty of positive comments about it.

The second of the new projects, one that I know very little about, is locking into the notion that drugs, when used properly, are less dangerous than when used by people who know nothing about what they are doing. An outside group from Halifax is training four of our guys as lecturers. The course is very extensive and will go on for months, at the end of which, our guys will be qualified lecturers on the use and misuse of drugs. This is not to say that our people are being trained in how to better get-off; they are being trained in how to make people aware of the dangers they flirt with when messing with drugs they only think they know something about.

I will strive to get a more complete description of what this programme is all about for the next issue.

CON-ACT is still hammering away at developing acting skills. There has been a lot of outside interest shown in this project and next issue will contain an article on what is going down.

# There must be alternatives to prison

The Evening Telegram,

By EVERETT HOBBS

MAY OF THIS YEAR SAW THE PUBLICATION of a report on the treatment of younger offenders. It is a British document called the "Younger Report." The official title is "The Advisory Council on the Penal System report on Young Adult Offenders." It makes the point, which is becoming more obvious, that the clearest lesson to be learned from a study of penal history is that all attempts to punish and reform by the same operation have failed.

The report expresses the view "that the goal of helping, assisting and influencing the offender to live his life and manage his affairs without committing offences has a better chance of being achieved by supervision in the community than by committing him to custody."

The penal system as a means of punishment began to develop in Britain after 1779. In that year, an act of Parliament authorized the building of government-run penitentiaries. The thinking behind this scheme was that if criminals were "ordered to solitary imprisonment, accompanied by well-regulated labor and religious instructions, it might be the means under providence, not only of deterring others from the commission of like crimes but also of reforming the individual and inuring him to habits of industry."

Prior to 1779, prisons were usually places of custody for those awaiting trial, and not for punishment. The most common forms of punishment were hanging (for all kinds of offences), transportation to a penal colony and banishment from the country. The 1779 act was the first attempt to rescue criminals instead of getting rid of them.

In order to cope with the growing number of criminals, the Victorians had to keep building more and more prisons. The 19th century wasn't exactly peace and quiet, as the words of Gladstone illustrate: "The compact mass of criminals in our midst is a growing strain on our civilization." And in the words of a contemporary: "The great stage army of offenders in all categories continues its unbroken array, with a monotonous regularity."

Thinking people were beginning to realize that prison as a deterrent was not enough. Reformers began to advocate the necessity of reform as the priority. A committee of 1895 made the observation: "We think that prison discipline and treatment should be more effectually designed to maintain, stimulate or awaken the higher susceptibilities of prisoners, to develop their moral instincts, to train them in orderly and industrial habits and whenever possible, to turn them out better men and women, physically and mentally, than when they came in." Thus was stated what in essence still remains the aim of today's prison system.

The aims of punishment can be summarized under these headings: (1)- A deterrent. (2)- The protection of society. (3)- Reform of the offender. (4)- Giving justice and retribution. (5)- Exacting compensations for loss or injury.

The only one of these aims that might be achieved by using prison as a punishment is the protection of society. The other aims can be achieved outside the penal system. Imprisonment may be the only way to protect society from certain kinds of vicious criminals and those likely to repeat offences. But for the great number sent to prison, no such protection is needed and an alternative like probation could be just as effective.

Perhaps the most hopeful and practical of prison reform is to keep people out of prison altogether. This is the aspiration of the Younger Report in regard to young offenders.

The only body, which to date, has abolished imprisonment for the young adult is the state of Massachusetts. In Britain, alternatives to prison for the young offender have been practiced since the Borstal system was introduced in 1908. This method is based on the idea of 'association' (living together) as opposed to the prison method of 'separate confinement' (living in cells and movement restricted).

Other alternatives to prisons for the young are attendance centres, probation services, detention centres and approved schools. Over the years, a policy of dealing with young offenders by alternative methods has been evolving. The Younger Report proposes that wherever possible, young offenders should receive treatment in the community under supervision.

Custody is at best a costly way of achieving a very little, and as the report itself admits, has demonstrably failed for many young offenders. The report asks the question: "In view of the growing doubt about the efficacy of custodial forms of treatment, is it justifiable for society to deprive an offender of his liberty...simply in order to subject him to prolonged treatment whose reformative effect is open to question?

Custody should only be used when it is indisputably necessary for the protection of the public or where there are clear advantages that can be secured only by removal from the community. At the same time it does not follow that because custody has failed for many offenders, treatment in the community would necessarily succeed. But it would clearly be much cheaper, and more humane.

The real point of non-punitive custody for the young would be its psychological effect on the person sentenced for his own salvation. There was nothing wrong in the early 19th century belief that reform was dependant on separating criminals from one another. It has been shown that prisons can become 'schools of crime' for the young offenders and they leave, not reformed but thinking as criminals. There must be good influence if reform is to take place.

In America, the national advisory commission on criminal justice standards and goals has recently produced a report declaring that criminals be treated as leniently as possible because the tough approach has failed; many offenders should go free with no more punishment than arrest and trial; prisons should be reserved for hard-core criminals. It recommends a 10-year moratorium on the construction of correctional institutions except where studies show that no alternative is possible.

The commission calls for recognition of the fact that "crimes and delinquency are symptoms of failure and disorganization in the community as well as the offender himself." What offenders need is not isolation from the community but more contact with the good side of life and more opportunities to participate in the experiences that provide a means and a stimulus for pursuing a lawful style of living. This report gives support to the theory that prison should only be used for the hardened criminal.

One British organization advocating alternatives to prison is RAP (Radical Alternatives to Prison). The aim of RAP is the eventual abolition of imprisonment altogether. Underlying this theory is the view that 'crime' is not just the behavior of certain anti-social individuals, but an integral part of our whole society. This approach challenges the belief that 'crime' is some kind of separate behavior not rooted in the general behavior pattern and that the 'criminal' must be treated as some one who is 'different.

Any punishment must consider the individual in his personal and social situation and he should not be removed from that setting when punished. Ideally all offenders should remain within the community. The only ones that might require imprisonment are the small number who are a danger to human life.

The present position is to sentence the offender to a fixed term of imprisonment. He will probably return to the community in a more dangerous and determined state than when he was removed from it. Hence the protection the public has won from him will at best prove a respite. And a very costly one.

The only way the public can be offered permanent protection is, obviously enough, through the offender being cured of his criminality. The problem is deciding how this can best be achieved. The community has to decide if it will be custody or non-custody, prisons or alternatives to prison.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Hobbs, a Newfoundlander, is working in London, England and also studying sociology.

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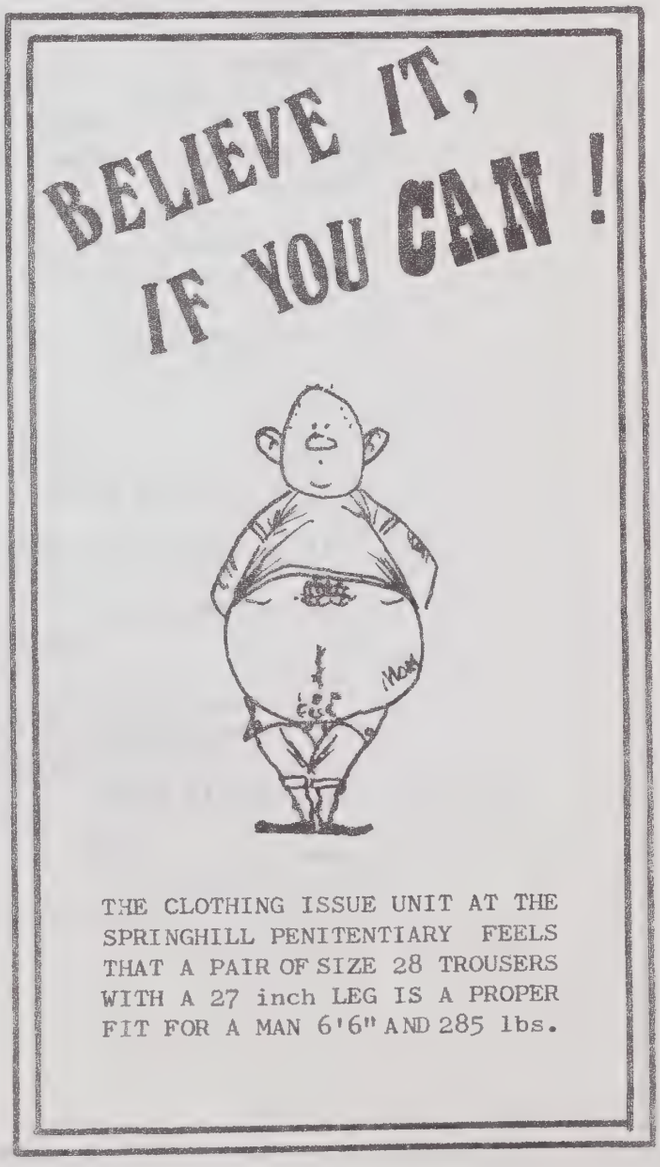


singing of solitude late at night
whispers
and every instant flashes by.

With a gentle hand I come
filled
with words
for
sparkling
EYES.
I wonder around
caressing impulses.

I could have said it
so easily unaware
-- hidden
DEEP
within
a broken
verse
which spoke knowingly
of your deep concern.

Nothing will ever be gained
when held against the price
of everything left behind.

To softly caress a child
with
seeking
EYES.

With bleeding hands.

It is easy for someone
who asked
to be completely
denied.

I'll leave the words
to demented poets
killing
the lonely hours
of the night,
and I'll
fade
into my detailed resting place.

by Robbie Hebert
1974

# Variations on a Theme

1

How far it goes this hurt
which day after day
is gathered by the body.

I've seen it at the strangest times.

In here,
such things are never mild.

A quick end
simply says it all;
if freedom is suicide.

11

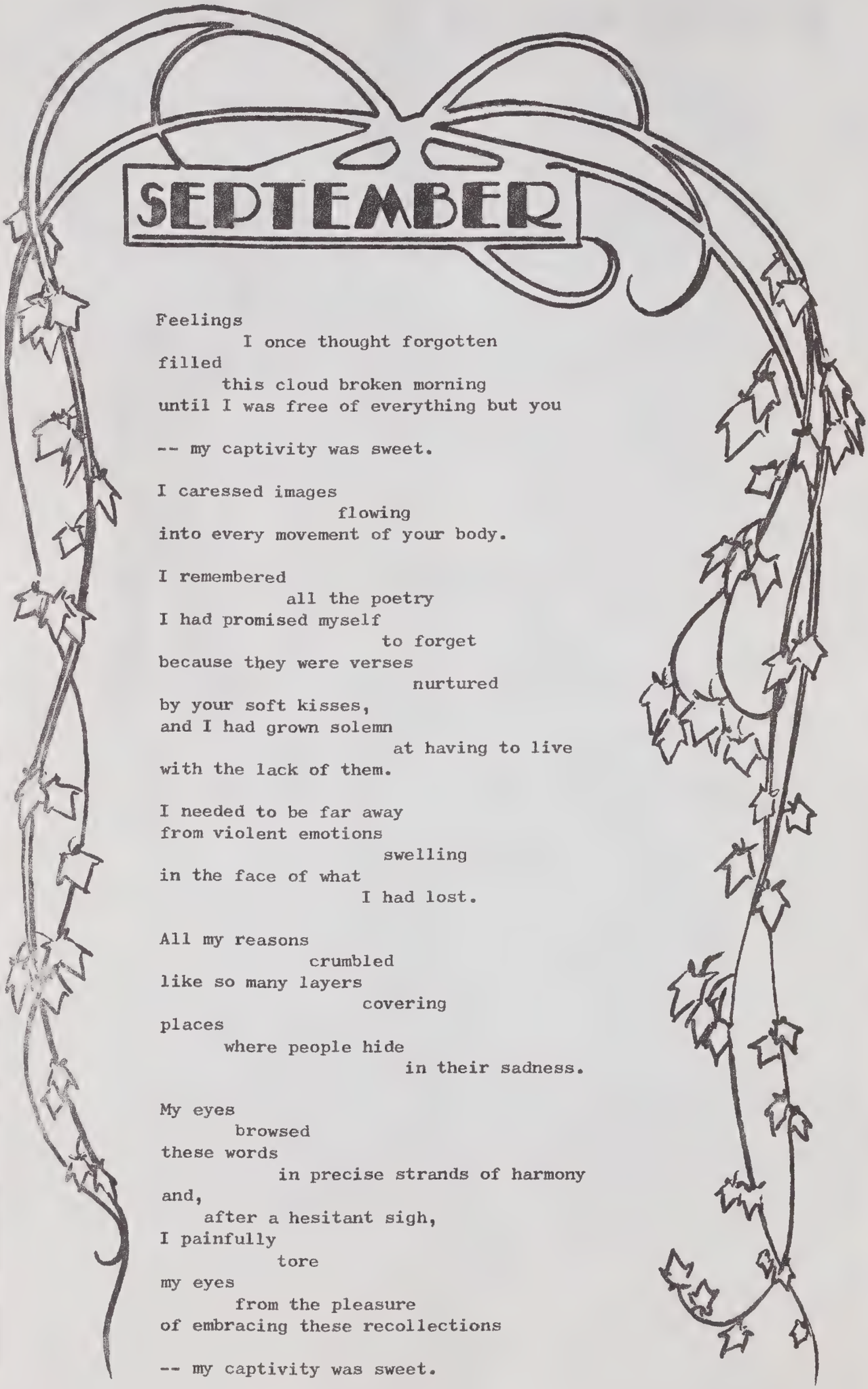
I have never lost anything
real
I ever had for anyone;
it grows
beyond the years.
Free
to a certain point
S T R E T C H I N G
out
in space
opening up
like a distant womb
to deliver
myself
outside of me,
and this
because I make no walls
to imprison
myself
inside of me.

111

How
FAR
it goes
this
HURT
which
DAY
after
DAY
is
GATHERED
by the body.

I've seen it at the strangest times.
IN HERE,
such things
are never
MILD.

A
QUICK END
simply says it all,
if
FREEDOM
is
SUICIDE.



# SEPTEMBER

Feelings
I once thought forgotten
filled
this cloud broken morning
until I was free of everything but you

-- my captivity was sweet.

I caressed images
flowing
into every movement of your body.

I remembered
all the poetry
I had promised myself
to forget
because they were verses
nurtured
by your soft kisses,
and I had grown solemn
at having to live
with the lack of them.

I needed to be far away
from violent emotions
swelling
in the face of what
I had lost.

All my reasons
crumbled
like so many layers
covering
places
where people hide
in their sadness.

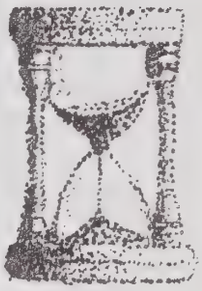
My eyes
browsed
these words
in precise strands of harmony
and,
after a hesitant sigh,
I painfully
tore
my eyes
from the pleasure
of embracing these recollections

-- my captivity was sweet.

by Robbie Hebert
1975

# TIME

Life is time, it passes quickly by.
We live by moments, how they fly.
There is a place in time where life stands still.
We stop and watch ourselves at will.
We analyze what life means to us.
Are we on the right track, or on the wrong bus?
Changes are always hard to bear
but very worthwhile, if we really care -
Care about ourselves, care about others.
Love our life, and share with our brothers.
My life has meaning, I know my goals.
It isn't always easy, it has its shoals -
but like the ocean tide caressing the shores
it has highs and lows, but there has to be more.
Life without love is a vacant dream
an emptyness within, a stifled scream.
Love makes life and the world go 'round.
Welcome it with an openness that makes no sound.
Those who would boast they've got it made
shout, from fear, what they have will fade.
Know it, accept it, fear it, yes!
Live each day, let them come and pass
by living today well, you take care of tomorrow.
Your life will be complete, little will you sorrow.
Give your life meaning and love will be yours
and then time, like the sea will cling to your shores.



# Missing You

Long days and lonely nights
nothing in my life seems right
Lots of friends fill my empty hours
but still my tears flow like April showers
I long to see you, hold you close
to let you know, you're what I love most
to reach out and touch you to know you are near
to know you are happy, to know you are dear
It hurts to give, when you give of yourself
When long days pass and I'm by myself
no one to share my innermost thoughts
no one to care whether I live or not.

If you love me as much as I love you
if your thoughts are thus, then you suffer too
the future is ours, this I have to believe
it gets me through each day with some relief
but believing is something you can't touch or feel
is oh! so hard, so very unreal
so much time to think, so much time to reach out
so much pain within, so much self doubt
the warmth of your nearness, the sound of your voice
would lighten my heart, make it rejoice
Keep the faith, someday all will be real
and the hurt that is within will have time to heal.

by "Old Beth"
1974

# one man's view

## BOB EBY

AS HAPPENS FROM TIME TO TIME, OUTSIDE GROUPS CONTACT THE PRISON AUTHORITIES ASKING FOR A SPEAKER TO ATTEND AN OUTSIDE FUNCTION. THE FOLLOWING IS AN ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE DALHOUSIE LAW FACULTY'S CONFERENCE ON "SENTENCING ALTERNATIVES AND METHODS." ONE-HUNDRED-AND-THIRTY REGISTERED DELEGATES ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE, MADE UP OF JUDGES, LAWYERS, PROSECUTORS, AND VARIOUS OTHER PERSONS INVOLVED IN "CORRECTIONS" AND WORKING WITH PEOPLE. BOB EBY IS THE SPEAKER; THE WORDS ARE HIS OWN BUT DO REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF TOO MANY PEOPLE.

AT FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE, I WAS DEEMED AN "INCORRIGIBLE" BY THE JUVENILE AUTHORities and sent away for a year in a "training school." At thirty-seven, I've got a total of nine years served behind penitentiary walls, and have six to go.

I am not here to make apologies for myself, or my actions -- I've paid, and am still paying, my dues; and I don't want to bore you with long "appeals to authority" from men dead and of the past. I'd like to open by quoting a prison-poet; a man -- alive -- and behind bars, still. His experience runs parallel to my own and his words exemplify the lives of thousands.

...IN A CITY OF SUFFOCATION

But the joke,
The ludicrous joke,
Is the prison postulate:

The sanctimonious, hypocritical
Exercize in futility:

The paradox
With the built-in mechanism
Of self-defeat:

The rigid, puritanical concept,
That says
That somehow,
By some insane sewer-magic,
A prolonged wallow
In abnormality
Will produce

Normalcy.

Some joke.

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CON-ACT Programs).

"The sanctimonious, hypocritical exercize in futility" are words that should say much to those persons who are involved in the handing out of sanctions, and to those who work in the field of "corrections." To send people off to penal institutions for "rehabilitation," "correction," "socialization," and the dozens of other pseudo-scientific concepts is sheer hypocrisy -- and even where the sentencing judge, indignant public, or well-meaning social worker take this form of action in an attempt to "help" the offender, it is an "exercize in futility."

For anyone to believe that prisons are places where human beings get sent to learn to live more socially acceptable lives, that person has to be indulging himself in "a concept that says a prolonged wallow in abnormality will produce normalcy."

Prisons just ain't normal.... The well-meaning (and sometimes hypocritical)people who believe they are "helping" a person by incarcerating him are doing so out of ignorance of what prisons are all about. The reality that is prison is almost totally punitive by nature, and to allude to notions of "rehabilitation," "treatment," and "positive programming" is allusion to fantasy.

There is no denying that penology has come a long way since the old days, and I am not about to deny the fact that there are many people looking for better answers. The very tone and postulations of the Law Reform Commission supports that truth: they are getting at the point when they speak of there being no statistical evidence

to support the notion that incarceration of offenders acts as a deterrent for the incidence of crime or the recidivism rate of repeated offenders. The fact of the matter is that prisons, because they are punitive in nature, and because prisoners learn to hate while there, are in themselves creators of anti-social attitudes.

A person finds himself behind the walls; he accepts the notions of "rehabilitation" and "treatment" and sets out to get some. But before he gets very far, he finds out that even though there are courses of study that can be taken, trades that can be learned, and various forms of counselling one can be exposed to -- there is still the nature of the prison to be contended with; a nature that is so incidious (and sometimes subtle) that it works counter to almost everything a person does that is of a positive nature. Survival amid abnormality rarely produces moral character, and it is this moral character that all men need to achieve and retain decency of thought and deed.

When a group of people find themselves surrounded by an anti-social environment, or an individual is amid an anti-social group, those persons (being social animals by nature) take on the anti-social attitudes and posturings of the group, and it takes a rarely found degree of moral character to overcome this set of circumstances. People do it but they do it in spite of the System; not through it! Even staff, some of whom are truly interested in helping people, learn how nearly impossible it is to overcome the nature of the System.

What is the answer if incarceration isn't? For me, the answer is simple; it is only the bringing about of the solution that is difficult!

The answer is that all men have got to learn to respect their fellow men, and the only way a prisoner can learn that kind of respect is to learn to respect himself, and no-one learns to respect himself until he has been respected.

No-one looks upon a prisoner with respect -- that would be a total contradiction in terms -- and least of all himself. So I see the solution taking the form many of the recommendations the Law Reform Commission is making with regards to RESTITUTION and FINES, DIVERSION, and a RE-EVALUATION of notions regarding the ACTUAL HARM TO SOCIETY in straight-forward PROPERTY CRIMES. The Law, if it is truly concerned with wanting to create a healthier society, has to DE-EMPHASIZE THE IDEOLOGY OF PROPERTY and put it back on people, where it belongs -- both victim and offender.

The Community is the only place an offender can learn to respect the rights of others, including his own, and it is in the Community where a person can gain the respect of his fellow men through living as a social being. Let offenders REPAIR the damage they have done; sanction them through SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY rather than as parasites of it -- and the chances they'll come through that process healthy are a thousandfold what they are if imprisoned.

It is doubtful that prisons can ever be fully abolished, for there are people who have to be controlled for the protection of society, but the percentage of offenders who are imprisoned now who are dangerous in any "real" way is probably less than fifteen percent. And, even they, as human beings should retain THE RIGHT THAT IS EVERY PERSONS -- THE RIGHT TO CHANGE....

To continue to take revenge on offenders rather than letting them learn to respect themselves -- and consequently you -- is to guarantee that society will remain violent, materialistic, consumer-minded, and a hypocritical people "leaving their empty shells for some far away tomorrow, that will in fact, be just another today...."

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# Prison said to be worse place for many criminals

UNITED NATIONS (UPI) — For many criminals, prison is the worst place they should be, according to a U.N. report.

The report by a committee which studied crime prevention and control said the main value of imprisonment is that it keeps dangerous offenders out of the community and the fear of going to jail acts as a deterrent to some potential offenders.

But, the report said, the disadvantages of prison are the expense of operating them and the glaring fact that only a small number of inmates are ever rehabilitated in jail.

"In fact, by removing the offender from normal social and family contacts and exposing him to the influence of others who have committed crimes, imprisonment may make the task of rehabilitation more difficult," the committee said.

The study group suggested better prison facilities, humane treatment of inmates and guarantees of their basic rights and redress of grievances.

"Prison labor should be integrated within the local, national and regional economy," it said. "It should not be used as cheap labor and inmates should be remunerated at a rate in accordance with the prevailing labor policy."

Even so, it said, offenders who do not pay fines — except where the refusal is malicious — should not be sent to prison as is common practice. Some other form of noninstitutional treatment should be meted out, it said.

The committee urged development and extension of correction methods as an alternative to prison, and suggested:

— Special treatment for the mentally disturbed, alcoholics, drug addicts and others who require it.

— Parole and early release systems coupled with supervision designed to reintegrated prisoners into the community.

— Semicustodial treatment such as hostels and training centers.

—, Noncustodial treatment such as fines, probation and work in the community.

# AT LARGE

BY CYMBOL

"AT LARGE: A Prison Journal" is another continuing novel that will be presented in THE COMMUNICATOR on a monthly basis. The writer chooses to use the pseudonym CYMBOL and we will respect his right to remain anonymous. His writings are reflective of his experiences in a maximum security prison but since he is writing from Springhill, there is no doubt his writer's eye will fall on the medium setting here. All names and events mentioned within the pages are historically false but poetically true, and will remain so to protect the guilty.

## Chapter Three

### "On the Infinite Sorrows of Life...."

EYE-BALLING MY NEW CLASSIFICATION OFFICER ON HIS HOME TERRITORY. FROM THE LOOK OF him, this office isn't his natural habitat either. I just look at his eyes once in a while to let him think I'm interested,while I clock him for something -- anything -- I might be able to use later. Once in awhile something comes through, but I'm really not listening. I don't get paid for listening to him and if I don't attack him he gets to live through lunch and then through Friday, when he can drive into town and cash his paycheck.

Everything about him looks new. No, "new" isn't quite the right word; everything about him looks "Mod," when mod was a word people were using. The suit could have been bought for this job -- a sort of glarry metallic colour with flecks of psychedelia imbedded into the thread; the kind of suit Tip Top Tailors throw into their display windows; but he couldn't do much better in Moncton, I don't suppose. Wide tie, high-collar shirt, in a pastel purple, shiny shoes -- wait, lemme look -- yep, jest as I thought, shined. Makes you think how long it's been since you wore clothes, real clothes....

I must have been drifting and it showed because he stopped rambling and fixed his face seriously at me: "I'D LIKE TO SEE HOW YOU'D FEEL IF YOU HAD TO TALK TO THESE PEOPLE ALL DAY LONG!"

In the time it took for me to decide whether to tell him that I'm one of "these people," he thought of it too, because he just went crimson and looking like I'd caught him masturbating behind his desk.

I'm doing my baby-face killer look at him now (--thinking about that damned island with women and sunshine so that he won't know where my hands are and put that down in my file--) seeing if he'll back down.

His face still flushed, he's gone to the cabinet, yanking out more files on me, and returned to the desk.

(Embarrassed -- now that's something I can use with him as long as he stays new to the place; embarrassment is always good but you can't count on it to last. He didn't apologize for his anger, so he's been thoroughly schooled in handling the animals...

-- don't feed them from yer hand or whenever they see food in yer fist they'll grab for it;
-- never apologize for yer mistakes or they'll use it against you;
-- don't fret about antagonizing or insulting them 'cause they really can't be insulted;
(That's true actually: what could be more insulting than being in prison? I ask you.)

... Maybe he'll let me try on his mod suit sometime.

Jeesus, he's just said something that I'm supposed to respond to and I wasn't listening. Now he's crouched in a heavy listening position and I don't know what-the-shit it was he said; I think he asked me something. There is a long pause as he waits (I hope it wasn't something simple, like my age or my work location or where I call home.)....

-- I'm sorry, I wasn't listening. I must've drifted off. Sorry.

Long pause, he just stares. (Christ! he HAS been schooled; either that or he doesn't remember what he asked me either).

It must be the latter, because he's just sitting there blank, looking like somebody just pulled out the cord that works him. Not meaning to, I couldn't help

stealing a look around the desk to see if, by any chance there is an outlet leading to him with a plug dangling on the floor. When I look up, his eyes are waiting to meet mine:

"It's exactly that kind of attitude that's keeping you in here," he says in an even voice. (He means not-listening to his questions -- he hasn't been schooled, he's been trained!).

Taking a closer look at him, I wish I had my old Classification back. He was boring, but he had a futile quality that was touching at times. An older man, with a yellow mouth and deep orange stains on his fingers from smoking long filter cigarettes, mouse-coloured skin and suits that matched, hair slicked down and parted as if by a knife on either side of his scalp. Thin hair that sort of trickled down his forehead like gravy. That man once convinced himself that he "cared" and he began to work in prisons at a time when nobody thought anything about the people on their case-loads one-way-or-another; but he ground himself down -- or had been ground down -- with futility, and all that he could do was tell you stories and babble about his three sons and what their growing up was like, because by the time I met him, he had completely forced himself out of any knowledge or memory of the prison that hulked outside his office door. At least to anything resembling the real thing out here. Somehow you couldn't resent him as much as pity him.

But this one. No, he is part of the mod-look of the penitentiary; one more transparent, hard, thin layer of veneer over the image the prisons have pasted obviously and recklessly over the old paint and concrete to look at, as into a mirror, to show them that indeed changes have happened, and are happening all the time. Educated -- yes, of course, he's educated -- but what does that mean? It means he completed some years at a prison-controlled college that deals out courses in "criminology" that teaches him to think of us as mental cases or symptoms of someone else's problem. Like an evangelist's assistant (or the sorcerer's apprentice!) suitcase and bible text-book in hand to spread the New Word; a missionary from television land (which has by now reached the streets). He listens to Cat Stevens records and reads Rolling Stone and he lived through the 60's without knowing it; and he has a degree and a career in-mind -- though not-necessarily in the Penitentiary Service; no, this will be an interlude for him (perhaps a Master's dissertation on Deviant Behaviour in maximum-security prisons) and he's going to use me and anyone else who crosses his path to get -- he doesn't even know where -- out,maybe. 'It's exactly that attitude that's keeping me in here?' It is, huh? Well --

Screw you, Mister Classification officer!

(Watch him back off soon as he sees the inmate's hostile and he might get blood all over that nice suit;)

-- Excuse me, sir, for not-listening to you; but don't bother to repeat your question: just make a note in my file that I'm un-cooperative, not aware of reality and probably comingdown from marijuana addiction. Screw you, Jack!

(Now watch him tell me there's no need to talk like that; we're going to have to work together, and I mustn't forget that I am, after all, dependent upon his good graces if I am not to spend my time in the pitchy-dark or the tailor shop).

"There's no need to talk like that."

-- You forgot to say, "son."

"What?"

-- Forget it.

I guess I should pity this one, too, but somehow I get so tired of doing their work for them. They don't have to live here and listen to themselves telling us that we wouldn't have to live here either if we had "thought about 'this'" before we did what we did to land here.

But the clincher, what really burns me is that the other inmates will love him; recognize him as somekind of change a-comin' (because it's been so long and we're all desperate and hopeful for a real change) until they find out too late, that he's just a pig in the emperor's new clothes, in somebody else's idea of taste; that he's come armed with tools as dangerous as guns and gaz and over-medication; he has entered the campus without even the traditional con/authority... what would you call it? -- "Code"? The credo that says that hatred is out-front, that people are what they are and won't or can't change.

Just as Murphy standing at the barrier turning keys says he doesn't do "this for his health" -- but for money; this kid doesn't do this job for the money; 5,000 smackers or 50,000 a year wouldn't turn this kid on -- nosir; this kid does it for the Power. In a world with no values this kid steps into another reality, cut-off (for awhile anyway) from that other world, but an extension nonetheless -- and he sees that he can impose his second-hand values on this valueless world, on people who do have values; and he can wipe-out their values with the scribble of a pen, with a cruel word; by not saying anything when something needs to be said; by being cruel when he appears to be doing something for somebody's own good. And what's more he wants me to like him in the bargain; to justify his sense of feeling right-

eous by screwing over me --

"people have been killed for less," I tell him, and he's ready to leap out the window before I grab him (which I have no intention of doing. I'm not violent, unfortunately, or there'd be less of them walking around downtown Anywhere); can Guilt loom that large? do I hate him less than I do Murphy -- and should I?

I wanted to say something nice about this person; something humourous about his self-pity and pompousness that would make us both laugh. But looking at him, watching him manipulating me by-the-book he believes in -- the way some people believe in love or hate or goodness or God -- I see him embracing all that he should reject in the world. Taking the psoriasis of the heart under his skin and bleeding with college chums in taverns about the infinite heart-break of psoriasis; about how his hands are tied by people who are controlled by people none of them seem to know. "I'd like to do something," he says "but you can't do anything under that system." And then, at length, into the long hours of night, he lists the endless outrages committed against him by the system that at least pays him for the privilege of humiliating him.

And the social worker welfare staff wonders why we hate them?

## GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

# Number Ten Unit

**By C.D.Dunlap**

THIS IS MY SECOND ATTEMPT AT WRITING this month's report from the Therapeutic Community(alias: NUMBER TEN LIVING UNIT) and I can't guarantee it will make any more sense than last month's did, or for that matter, the report I just disposed of in the garbage.

It seemed that the Christmas-time rush created enough of a madhouse here, but recently we have had another event that has set us back quite a bit -- financially, as well as in our heads. I guess it is common knowledge that our canteen was in debt; right now, it is still closed and we are awaiting the re-location of the Canteen to the upper-lobby area at the base of 'D' range. Who knows if that will do any good? We hope that it will, along with some of the other changes we have seen fit to implement regarding the operation of our canteen. We will have a new operator as soon as we re-open; JACK WHALEN was selected by a unanimous vote and we feel confident in his ability to handle the responsibilities that this job entails. Enough on the canteen....

I took a slight excursion around the unit and asked a few people what was going on. Here are some of the replies:

"Not much."
"Not enough."
"Huh?"
"The same old bump and grind."
"Life...."

I decided right then that I should maybe become more specific in my questioning, so I asked how the NUMBER TEN hockey team was doing. But, since I asked that question a few days ago, I can't really remember the answer; I'll make a guess though: I think what was said was that they weren't doing badly -- have won four, not sure if they lost any but it looks like they may place third in the finals.

Then I asked if we had a basketball team and I found out that we did, but that we really didn't have much of a chance because NUMBER EIGHT has a couple of cats that are about 6'8" tall.

We got one of our boys back from the Adjustment Centre and another was put in; no comment.

One of our star hockey players for the unit and the joint teams had a bad accident; RALPH SEYMORE is in the hospital, as far as I know, with a really messed up ankle that got struck by a puck. Hope you get well soon, Ralph.

I want to end this report with a reply to last month's Editor's Note attached to the end of my report, and that is: OPEN WI-I-I-I-DE FOR CHUNKY.

EDITOR'S NOTE: "CHUNKY," he says. The only thing chunky about C.B. is the time he got for messin' wit' do's dumb Canucks up dere in da nort' end o' Amurika.

# Parole board's 'expertise' lauded

OTTAWA (CP) — The national parole board has demonstrated "a high degree of expertise" in keeping dangerous convicted criminals off the streets, board chairman William R. Outerbridge said yesterday.

In a closed meeting with police chiefs here, Outerbridge defended the national parole system against what he said was inaccurate criticism by politicians, police and members of the public.

He told a meeting of the liaison sub-committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the parole board that the number of prisoners who breach parole decreased from 26 per cent of parolees in 1973 to 20 per cent last year.

A text of Outerbridge's speech was obtained by the Canadian Press.

He said the reduction means that of about 4,200 persons on federal parole across the country during the average week, eight will be convicted of indictable offences.

He said he is concerned by suggestions from Quebec Attorney-General Jerome Choquette, several members of Parliament and officials of police associations that recent violence, including three police murders, could have been avoided by improved parole procedures.

### Predict behavior

The major responsibility of the 19-member board is to predict the future behavior of parole applicants, separating the potential repeat offenders from those who want to reform, he said.

"When it comes to predicting future behavior with accuracy, we would all appear to be amateurs," he said. "This kind of prediction is even more difficult than predicting future economic trends, political events or even housing and food costs."

He said the board's record nonetheles compares favorably with records of parole agencies in other jurisdictions.

Outerbridge said he does not believe claims by some politicians that the parole and punishment system is out of control, that the board is too quick to grant parole and that its members are "naive amateurs."

He said it is "simply not true" that the board routinely grants parole to most prisoners who have served one-third of their sentences. While the board is required to review all cases after one third of the sentence has expired, only about 50 per cent of prisoners are actually released, he said.

He said prisoners are only released after a board panel studies files from police, prison and community agencies and conducts a 30-to 60-minute interview with the applicant.

Non-violent property offenders, persons who have not committed violent crimes against individuals, are usually released on the affirmative vote of two panel members, he said.

### Sent to Ottawa

In cases involving violent crime, dangerous criminals or serious trafficking in drugs, the applicant's file is sent to Ottawa for additional review by panels of three, five or seven board members, he said.

In capital murder cases release can only be approved by cabinet.

# Has 34 Years' Experience In Penitentiary Service

(Moncton Times)

F. Hazen Smith joined the Canadian Penitentiary Service as a correctional officer at the Maritime Penitentiary in Dorchester in 1940. He was promoted to classification assistant in 1954 and classification officer in 1957. He was appointed deputy warden in 1960 and warden two years later. He served in that post until 1965 when he was transferred to the top administrative post at the Kingston Penitentiary in Ontario. Two years later he was moved to the headquarters of the Canadian Penitentiary Service in Ottawa, where he served until his present appointment to the Parole Board this spring. He is married and has a son Mark attending Carleton University, Ottawa, and a daughter, Mrs. Clarence Walsh of Beaver Harbor.

Mr. Smith feels his experience as a former warden in federal institutions has provided him with considerable insight into the reactions of inmates. It also gives him a fairly good understanding of the psychology of inmates in the artificial environs of the prison setting. He's quite current on the kinds of available programs, occupational and social, and familiar with the kinds of stress and anxiety the inmates feel, and their status as prisoners.

As a Parole Board member, his relationship with inmates now is not a counselling type of effort — although with his background, he feels he might do some. At Dorchester Penitentiary he knows most of the staff personally, and many of the prisoners who were serving time when he acted as warden. "In a way," he says, "it's almost like going home."

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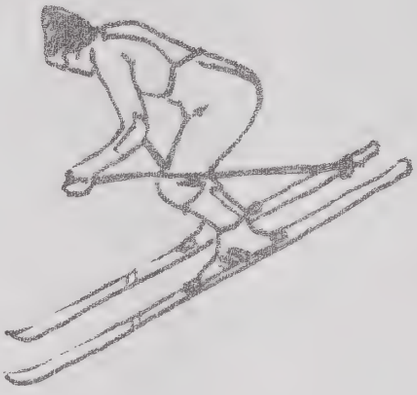
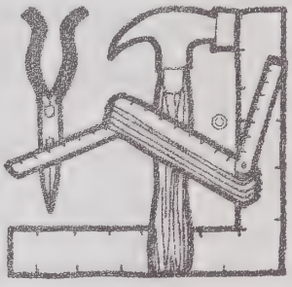

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# COMMUNICATOR REPORT

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Although not all of the panelists were expected to address themselves solely to the principles of sentencing alternatives and methods -- a few were asked to speak on existing theories and concepts in order to set the tone of the discussions and to give credence to the topical concepts -- there was very little being said about the existing system that would give the audience cause to believe they should be seriously considering alternatives. Most of the discussion hinged around improving what already exists and rendering it more efficient and controllable.

There were some that addressed themselves to the sentencing alternatives alluded to in the conference title -- Keith Jobson of the Law Reform Commission of Canada; Judge R.E. Kimball of the Provincial Magistrate's Court, Kentville; Vince MacDonald of the National Parole Service, Halifax; the Rev. John Shue of New Options, Halifax; and myself -- but it is a fact that very little was said about actual diversionary techniques and, especially, diverting offenders away from the sanction of incarceration.

# Parole board's 'expertise' lauded

OTTAWA (CP) — The national parole board has demonstrated "a high degree of expertise" in keeping dangerous convicted criminals off the streets, board chairman William R. Outerbridge said yesterday.

In a closed meeting with police chiefs here, Outerbridge defended the national parole system against what he said was inaccurate criticism by politicians, police and members of the public.

He told a meeting of the liaison sub-committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the parole board that the number of prisoners who breach parole decreased from 26 per cent of parolees in 1973 to 20 per cent last year.

A text of Outerbridge's speech was obtained by the Canadian Press.

He said the reduction means that of about 4,200 persons on federal parole across the country during the average week, eight will be convicted of indictable offences.

He said he is concerned by suggestions from Quebec Attorney-General Jerome Choquette, several members of Parliament and officials of police associations that recent violence, including three police murders, could have been avoided by improved parole procedures.

**Predict behavior**

The major responsibility of the 19-member board is to predict the future behavior of parole applicants, separating the potential repeat offenders from those who want to reform, he said.

"When it comes to predicting future behavior with accuracy, we would all appear to be amateurs," he said. "This kind of prediction is even more difficult than predicting future economic trends, political events or even housing and food costs."

He said the board's record nonetheles compares favorably with records of parole agencies in other jurisdictions.

Outerbridge said he does not believe claims by some politicians that the parole and punishment system is out of control, that the board is too quick to grant parole and that its members are "naive amateurs."

He said it is "simply not true" that the board routinely grants parole to most prisoners who have served one-third of their sentences. While the board is required to review all cases after one third of the sentence has expired, only about 50 per cent of prisoners are actually released, he said.

He said prisoners are only released after a board panel studies files from police, prison and community agencies and conducts a 30-to 60-minute interview with the applicant.

Non-violent property offenders, persons who have not committed violent crimes against individuals, are usually released on the affirmative vote of two panel members, he said.

**Sent to Ottawa**

In cases involving violent crime, dangerous criminals or serious trafficking in drugs, the applicant's file is sent to Ottawa for additional review by panels of three, five or seven board members, he said.

In capital murder cases release can only be approved by cabinet.

# Has 34 Years' Experience In Penitentiary Service

(Moncton Times)

F. Hazen Smith joined the Canadian Penitentiary Service as a correctional officer at the Maritime Penitentiary in Dorchester in 1940. He was promoted to classification assistant in 1954 and classification officer in 1957. He was appointed deputy warden in 1960 and warden two years later. He served in that post until 1965 when he was transferred to the top administrative post at the Kingston Penitentiary in Ontario. Two years later he was moved to the headquarters of the Canadian Penitentiary Service in Ottawa, where he served until his present appointment to the Parole Board this spring. He is married and has a son Mark attending Carleton University, Ottawa, and a daughter, Mrs. Clarence Walsh of Beaver Harbor.

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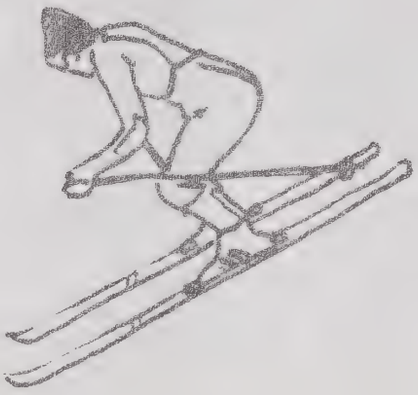
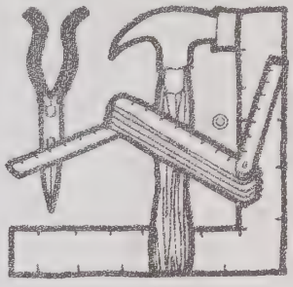

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With a room full of judges, lawyers and prosecutors, one would have expected to hear lots of discussion around notions of why offenders should be diverted from incarcerating sanctions. It would seem like an ideal time to be presenting explanations why prison should be considered as a last resort, and why Compensation, Restitution, and Fines should be thought of as practical sanctions for property offences.

But, there was only one speaker (yours truly makes it two) who directed himself directly to compensation, restitution, and fines as alternatives to imprisonment, and after Keith Jobson of the Law Reform Commission of Canada finished speaking on those topics there was some discussion surrounding those principles; but just as the discussion looked like it might be getting around to the point that it should have got to at ten in the morning -- instead of four in the afternoon -- one of the judges took off on a diatribe that turned into a philibuster, reducing the conference to little more than a schoolyard "Yeh?"

"YEH!"

"Yeh?"

"YEH!!!" session. It seems that someone had stepped on someone's toes -- it was hard to tell what was actually being discussed because of all the name-calling the judge was doing -- and the judge took advantage of the size and passiveness of the audience to air his gripe. The gripe got aired but I doubt very much if anyone walked away thinking about how articulate and logical and rational the man's argument was; it would probably be more accurate to say that they were simply stunned by the outburst and relieved to be heading home to the sanity of their own living rooms.

I don't know all of the reasons why this conference went off on the tangents it did -- one reason could be that the organizers failed to be specific enough in the advance literature they sent out to get people to come -- but I do know that there was very little interest being shown to the "sentencing alternatives" part of the conference title, and the only "diversion" that was going on was in evading the issues we were supposed to be gathered to discuss.

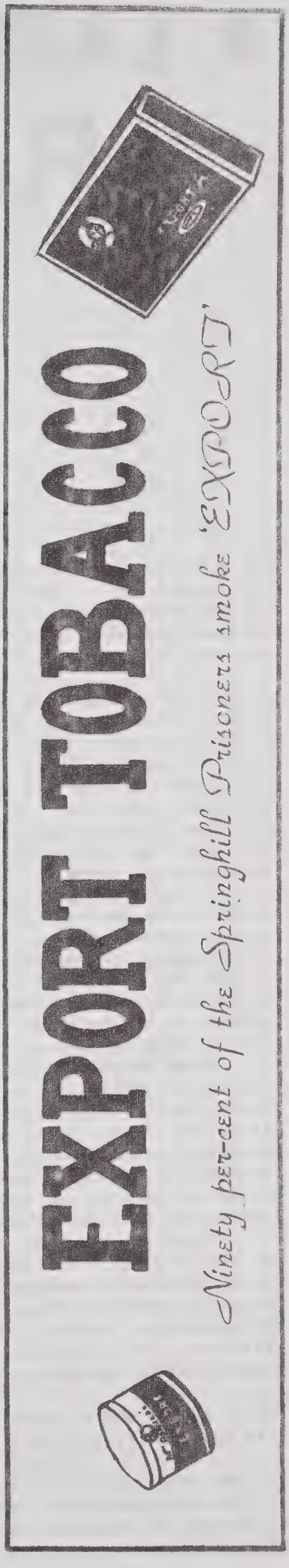
It was also obvious to me that this conference was not being taken very seriously by more than just the people who evaded the prime topic; the absence of media coverage -- both during and after -- struck me, and I am guessing that I am not alone in arriving at the conclusion I have reached on that score.

Just as I was leaving the building after the conference ended, I was stopped by one of the organizers and engaged in a few moments of conversation. During our talk, I asked when I would be receiving my copy of the transcript on what had transpired during the day. He told me I would be sent my portion of the panel discussion, and after I had "approved" it, it would be printed up with all the others and placed in an official transcript. I inquired why it was necessary for me to receive a sneak-preview of the transcript -- being fully aware of what I had said during the conference, and also aware that every word had been tape-recorded -- and was told I might want to change something I had said.

I responded with, "You mean to tell me that those people are being given the opportunity to change what they've said before it can be published as a transcript?"

His look gave me the feeling that I was being scrutinized after crawling out from under a rock somewhere, and he said; "That's standard procedure!"

"Conference?" -- "Sentencing Alternatives and Methods?" -- "Responsible for what one says?" I guess I've been in prison too long ... those legal folk sure have strange ways.



# A LAST RAP WITH WILLIE

**Bob Eby**

BOB: You are going to Ottawa to take up a new position. I know you don't know all the details as to what the job is, but could you give us the CPS outline on what your duties will be?

WILLIE: It is going to be Acting Chief of Case Management. Headquarters is divided into divisions; and the division I will be working in is for Doctor Garneau, Director of Living Units and Human Relations. Under him, he has three chiefs; one in psychology, one in Living Units, and one in Case Management. I'll look after the latter. It is a one-year "acting" position (bilingual), and the fellow in the posting now is going on a French training course for a year, and I'll be doing his job while he is away. The job will entail setting of policy as to how cases are being handled in institutions -- not individual cases but policy in handling cases.

I am interested in this, because this is the type of thing I tried to emphasize here, and I think I have a fair bit of experience at it and can help in improving things in that area. Other institutions haven't begun to use some of the policies we use here, and I would like to see them get into it.

So it'll be setting up of policies and visiting the other institutions, and consulting with department officials and trying to make suggestions as to how they can do better. Generally speaking, that will be my job -- more of a guidance to classification departments kind of thing.

BOB: Then you'll still be connected with Springhill, in a way?

WILLIE: In a way. I hope to have one or two trips back here, as I have a lot of friends on staff and outside I would like to see.

BOB: You started in Springhill in what year?

WILLIE: In the Spring of 1967.

BOB: That was your first contact, the Spring of '67?

WILLIE: Right! I was a year at Dorchester prior to that. I started on the first of May 1966 and worked there for a year, and then came here. I was never hired to work at Dorchester; from the very beginning, it was understood I would be coming to Springhill as soon as it opened. Once Springhill opened, I was asked to come here to organize a Classification Department.

BOB: What was the initial thing that influenced you to go into "corrections?"

WILLIE: When I was studying at the School of Social Work in Halifax, doing my M.S.W., part of my course content was to do field work. The second year I was there they asked me which area I would like to get into; and out of the options offered, one of which was the John Howard Society of Nova Scotia and who had a supervisor I had heard of and knew to be a competent person, I opted to go with them. At first I was just dealing with people who had come out of the institutions and were trying to get settled and find their way into the Community. As time went on, we started to make some field trips to Dorchester Penitentiary, the Farm Annex there, and the minimum-security institution in Springhill (but now closed).

These trips were a sort of eye opener and I got interested in things at the institutions I hadn't been aware of before. When we first started going up to the institutions, we would stop at

Springhill first thing in the morning, do interviews all morning and afternoon, and then stay overnight to get a fresh start for Dorchester in the morning. We got to know a lot of guys that way, because we would spend a lot of time with them when they were just relaxing during the evenings. I got a pretty good look at what went on inside institutions, and I would say it was this experience that helped to create the interest I now have.

After finishing my M.S.W., I had a commitment of two years with the Mental Health Department of New Brunswick, because they had provided me with a bursary while I was in school, so I went to work for them for two years and then entered the Penitentiary Service.

BOB: There's no doubt you've seen a lot of changes in the System since coming into it, and especially at Springhill. I wonder if you would tell us a bit about the kinds of changes you have seen come down since you've been here?

WILLIE: It would be hard to go into detail here, because of the tremendous changes that have taken place....

BOB: I can understand why that would be difficult; how would it be if we talked about the thematic changes that have come about?

WILLIE: When I first started at Dorchester, it was a very traditional type of prison (which it still is to a great extent) because it is sort of built that way and the inmate population and staff make it that way, and it is pretty hard to cut through that. I was pretty frustrated while working at Dorchester, with what I saw there, and probably, if I hadn't moved to Springhill, I wouldn't have been long in finding other work. The job there has to be done, no matter what the circumstances are, but I doubt that I would have stayed there.

Anyway, as I said, it was pretty traditional and conservative there, and when I came here (surprisingly) it was quite tight here, too. At the time, there were no inmates and this was the case for some five months after I got here. The inmates arrived in November 1967 and I can remember a sort of feeling about this institution; it was going to be a very regimented institution. The first thing I was told when I arrived here was that I was going to have to wear a uniform -- as all staff did at that time. At Dorchester, which is maximum-security, I had been given a choice, but this wasn't to be the case here. This kind of thing gave one the feeling that no-one was going to be given the opportunity to think for themselves -- a uniformed and non-creative outfit on the part of both staff and inmates. I managed to avoid having to wear the uniform, although I was measured up for one. I was the only one, for a good year-and-a-half, that didn't wear the uniform.

Without going into all the details, you can get a picture of what this place was like then; the whole atmosphere was very tight. Some people were happy with that, because there were only thirty inmates coming in at a time and it was pretty easy to control them. We had a hundred staff and only fifty or sixty inmates, and this made it pretty easy to get people to do what we wanted. There was very little happening that would help an inmate to grow as a person; he was told what to do and what he couldn't do, and the situation was very negative.

After a year of that I was, again, getting pretty tired of the work. We had a change of Wardens during the summer of 1968 -- Mr. Hamilton came -- and he had different ideas on how things were going to be tackled. He came from a long history of military and corrections, and for eight years before coming here, had been superintendent of the Blue Mountain Camp. He came in and started to evaluate what was going on and some of the things that should be started.

During the Fall of '68, Mr. Hamilton went to a warden's conference and the idea of a therapeutic community was discussed. He was open enough to accept the principles; he was in charge of the newest institution, and he took on the programme.

This started a whole new attack on the correctional approach. From that point on there came tremendous changes: the decentralization of authority began there; line staff and inmates started to have some say in the decision-making process and much came out of that.

When the inmates were given the opportunity to think for themselves, they came up with projects such as J.C.'s, and many other programmes that we have had. The staff did a lot of feeding into this new approach and the regimentation and tightness of the institution started to fall away. All of our existing programmes came out of this new atmosphere.

I can't give you a chronological description of all the programmes that came out of this process but it all began there. I think, too, that it was our experience with the therapeutic community that stimulated Head Office into bringing in the Living Unit concept, which is based on some of the same principles.

BOB: From what you have said, it would seem that one man -- if he is in a position of authority, such as the warden you speak of -- can effect change in a system, not independent of other people, of course. It would seem that if one man has the authority and ideas, and the line staff are susceptible to what he's laying down, change can be brought about.

WILLIE: Yeh. I think that's true. He can set the tone and policy; however, I think that at the time, we were pushing the staff -- you know, the custodial staff -- a bit too hard. In this type of work you have to always keep a balance. It is good to have changes taking place; not change for change sake, but things that need to be done. Temporary absence passes are one example of this kind of thing;you have to do what you've got to do but you can't push the staff to the point that everybody gets out anytime they want a pass. What I'm saying is that the staff has to have some willingness to support a policy, but if you push too far, the willingness goes out of their involvement and you are going to have problems -- and this will reflect on the inmates, too. So I think Mr. Hamilton, sometimes,pushed the staff a little too hard. However, it was needed at the time and it turned out okay. We managed to keep a balance, even though it was tough at times and some of the staff were getting up-tight.

BOB: A lot of people still talk of the Living Unit concept as an experiment. Do you think the Living Unit is still at that stage or do you feel it has gone beyond that level?

WILLIE: I think the Living Unit program will always be an experiment because, first of all, the programme is only a framework to work from. It is a good framework; the whole concept is based on decentralization of authority. We try to get the people who are dealing with the inmates in the Living Units to work more closely with one another, and this is different from the traditional approach. In the old way, an inmate could have a relationship with a staff member that was solely based on the inmate's ability to con one man, and even though the relationship was not a healthy one, he could still get things he wasn't deserving of. In the Living Unit framework this is less likely to happen, because we have more of a teamwork approach and this makes things better.

It will always be an experiment because things will always be changing and, depending on the type of programming and type of inmate, things will develop within the Living Unit program; sometimes we'll emphasize group interaction, other times it'll be individual counselling. So I suppose there'll never be a point where the program will be static; there'll always be something that you'll experiment with under the umbrella of the Living Unit concept.

To me,the Living Unit program, per se, is not treatment: it is just a framework that gives the opportunity for things to happen in a positive sense, so it'll always be like that.

It is very difficult to include a therapeutic community into the Living Unit program, because, to me, a Living Unit is based on the principle that each Living Unit should have the opportunity to do their own thing, but to have a T.C. program alongside the Living Units can't work. I don't think we have got the results from this combination we were hoping for.

BOB: I would expect there to be serious problems where that is happening; to try to have two programs that are so diversely oriented, and to expect them to exist in harmony,is naive and unrealistic.

WILLIE: Yes, that is basically true.

BOB: We are all very interested in the Community outside, for obvious reasons (Willie laughs). What kind of influence do you think the Community has on an institution such as Springhill?

WILLIE: I think it has a profound influence, in that a lot of staff live there. As it happens here -- which is probably not a good thing -- the institution is the biggest industry in the town,and a lot of the stuff that is happening inside goes outside, and a lot of the things that come into the institution are not good for the institution. This is not very good. Where a community is very conservative, it will have its effect on the inside community, and a lot of the kinds of things that happen around here are not for the good of the institution.

I think the people in Springhill have some potential to be "helpers" of people who are in trouble; they've gone through a couple of mine disasters and they have had to start from scratch, which is pretty much what inmates have to do when leaving here. The people of Springhill could be helpful to these men, because they have an empathy for people in trouble, and this could be a very good thing to the men on the inside. But from another point of view, I think the town is too small to have an institution of this type so close and to have that town depend so much on the institution. I am not advocating that penal institutions be in the middle of cities, but I think they should be on the outskirts of larger centres than Springhill. You know, we need the resources that larger centres have. The people we hire from the outside rarely live in town; they live in places like Amherst and other neighboring areas. This isn't to say that I have anything against the town of Springhill; it is just that the town doesn't have much to offer to outside people. So, I think the town will remain pretty much the same, because of this lack of new people coming into the community, and to grow here is pretty difficult. It is fine for the people of

the town to want things to remain the same there, but that is not necessarily what we want inside the institution, and it works against us having it this way.

A few people from Springhill have shown an interest in the institution; they act on the Citizen's Advisory Committee, are involved in A.A., sports, and so on, but there has to be much more in the way of resources than that, and the town is just too small to offer us the kinds of things we need.

BOB: One of the things we are discussing in my unit is setting up a group whereby we can invite outside people to come into the unit to meet with our guys. And one of the points that I've been stressing in our preliminary discussions is that too often we only concentrate on bringing in college students, and, in my experience, this trend works against what this kind of social programme is supposed to be about. Community involvement should be between people who have things in common that are of practical application,and to bring in only college students, and expect them to relate to our guys (and vice versa) is naive and works against what we are looking to stimulate. The values and lack of empathy between these two diverse groups is not conducive to creating healthy relationships; too many students come in solely out of curiosity and they have very little practical experience to pass on to our guys. I think we should have more "ordinary" people coming in: like the guy who started out as just an ordinary working guy and went on to own his own small business, or perhaps a union organizer who had to come up through the ranks -- people who know what it is to start out from scratch.

Do you think there is merit in having people come in who are more in line with the prisoner's own social class?

WILLIE: I would really go for that; you hit the nail right on the head! At times, we get people here who are here to serve their own needs rather than the needs of the guys here. I agree; university students are generally too idealistic and sometimes this doesn't work out too well. In a place like this, the realities are down-to-earth and we need people who can relate to that in a healthy way.

The whole volunteer involvement has to be based on people coming in to help other people, rather than satisfying their own needs. Quite often it happens that some of these people overidentify with the inmate and give a hard time to the custodial officers, and this creates all kinds of hassles that work against what we need. We need people coming in that are solid and well-established in the Community themselves.


PRISONERS TAKE NOTE

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BOB: I'm not too concerned about the kinds of hassles the custody people get, but I am thinking that the kinds of people we should be bringing in should be those that have had to hassle with life themselves so that they have something to pass on to our guys that is useful.

WILLIE: As you know, I have to concern myself with the hassles that staff sometimes get from volunteers coming in, but I do think what you are saying is right. I also think there should be more people coming in from places like Halifax. We don't have many guys here from the local area, and when they leave, they return to places like Halifax and other larger centres. If they've had contact in here with people from their own communities, they'll have friends to return to; the relationship gets established here and can work to the guy's advantage when he gets out.

It is fine to be able to go back into the Community you came from, and be in touch with some people like the John Howard Society, the National Parole Service,your family and friends,but that might not be enough, and it may not be what the guy needs at all.

BOB: I understand there is some discussion around starting up a M-2 Visitation Programme here.

WILLIE: Yes, that's right. We tried to get one started last year, through the Citizen's Advisory Committee, but it didn't get very far because we stayed within the local area, and this doesn't work out very well.

It is always the same people that get involved in programming around here and this doesn't make for a good situation. One person who was on the Citizen's Advisory Committee was coming in because he wanted the programme to work (which is fine) but it doesn't work where it is always the same people getting involved. We need to have a lot of different people coming in to do things.

BOB: That kind of thing is consistant, both inside and outside; it is always the few that do the most.

I think this is always going to be a problem in a place like Springhill. The age group is very young here, and the average person is eligible for parole within nine months; these people are not going to be very concerned with any long range programs that could be beneficial to other guys who are doing longer sentences. I am not "down" on the guys with shorter sentences who only concern themselves with getting themselves out as soon as possible, but it does work against the guys that are going to be here for longer lengths of time.

What kinds of things do you think the prison population here could be doing in terms of trying to get the Community more involved?

WILLIE: I don't think there is all that much that can be done. There aren't many people that are interested in coming into the institution to do anything. We have the J.C.'s involvement, and there are people coming from the Mount Allison International Varsity Christian Fellowship, and these involvements have proved to be good things, but they are usually only during the school year and our guys are left hanging. These kinds of involvements are also very specialized and don't attract large numbers from the inmate population, and there isn't much we can do about that.

BOB: Maybe you're saying that the population here should be supporting what already exists more effectively,in terms of Community involvement?

WILLIE: That is a good point. What happens a lot of the time is that things get started but they don't last very long, through lack of participation by the inmates. A lot of the activities are not very exciting: the Number Nine Workforce is an example; the guys would go out into the Community and do, what were, sometimes, dirty jobs, and they would lose interest after a few days(and I can understand that) but I do think the guys should be a little more patient and work at developing better kinds of things to do.

BOB: One of the things the COMMUNICATOR is trying to do, and will be concentrating on more in the near future, is to put more emphasis on the positive kinds of things that are being done by the population here. Any program in the institution that is doing good for somebody should be getting coverage in our magazine,and we want that to happen but it is difficult to get the guys into putting some input in through the writing of articles and such. I think we should have more guys writing essays on what they are doing and what they need to do better.

This reality is not peculiar to Springhill; people on the outside can't be bothered to take the time to express their views either, but I would like to see more of the guys using their magazine to communicate their views to the public,and to their fellows; and, in that way, we could eventually get around to bringing about some of the changes that need to go down.

WILLIE: It has a lot to do with what goes on at the range meetings; the people at the meetings don't like certain things about what's going on in the institution, but they won't say anything about it when the opportunity arises.

We all know there are all kinds of things happening around here that should be changed, but the inmates won't discuss these things at the time designated for that purpose. This kind of thing works against all of us.

What we need to have happen is that the inmates verbalize their problems and situations, and out of that, we'll eventually be able to get to work changing what it is that's wrong. There is always a way to correct a problem, and verbalizing the problem is one of the best ways. To walk around mumbling about wanting to punch somebody in the nose doesn't change anything, and the guys have got to make better use of the situations that are set up for discussing these kinds of things.

Their suspicion of the System stops them from taking best advantage of the institutional procedures we have here;too many of the guys see Springhill as being the same as the overall System, and they identify the System and Springhill as being the same; and, because of this, we are always going to have a problem in communication.

BOB: Do you think there is any hope the Living Unit programme will change that prevalent attitude?

WILLIE: It will depend on how the staff do their job. I think it's very difficult for the staff in the Living Unit. I also feel badly for the instructors in the shops, because they are people with Journeyman status who are lowly paid compared to other sections of the institution.

I think it is very difficult for staff in the Living Unit, and for Instructors in the shops, to keep their enthusiasm running high, because the System is not very career oriented and it takes them such a long time to get ahead in their vocations. If these people can accept that fact, and keep their enthusiasm at a high level, fine; but I am not sure this can happen. We will eventually reach a plateau where we can't go any higher and this will cause problems. It hasn't happened yet, because the Living Unit programme only started a little over two years ago, but it's going to come soon. If the staff attitudes and enthusiasm deteriorate, this will, no doubt, affect the inmate population.

BOB: Since your first coming here, I know you have been involved in a goodly number of innovations; are there any changes you would like to have seen come about that were not picked up on?

WILLIE: Probably the biggest thing I would like to have seen in here -- although it happened to some extent -- is having the entire institution working as a team -- not only the Living Unit, but everyone. I think the Living Unit programme was badly titled: it should have been something that would have described an Institutional approach, a new Institutional approach. I think the Instructor staff felt a little bit left out; they felt left out from the point of view of money, and with the major thrust of this institution being put on the Living Unit more than other areas.

Some sections, because of supervisors that were open to change (being able to see the forest for the trees), really got their teeth into the Living Unit idea, and I've seen some very good things. But, it has only been about a third of what I would like to have seen. It would have been nice to have seen 85% of the staff getting involved at the same level and enthusiasm.

I would like to have seen a better job done by the Living Unit staff themselves. I think that, individually, most Living Unit staff members are a good group of people; they are conscientious, but I think there is a group pressure taking place. It is the same with the inmates: you see a guy by himself and he's not a bad guy, but put him into a group and he's a different person.

The Living Unit staff have some of the same problems, and I would like to have been able to cut through that -- and nothing more grandiose than that.

I think we have the framework and structure here to have things happen properly -- and for the good of our charges and the institution in general; but there is not enough effort being put into the Living Unit programme.

The shop instructors should be getting better pay; they do the same job as the Living Unit staff but get less money for it. They are doing a lot more than they used to ten years ago but their pay only reflects what they would have been getting back then.

I would like to have seen better facilities for day parolees. We have quite a few day parolees, and I would like to have seen a sort of trailer outfit outside the institution, with some extra freedoms for the guys. They could be given a better opportunity to be more self-sufficient and responsible, with less supervision. That would have been a good thing and I had hoped that it would happen while I was here.

There is always something you would like to have done when you're leaving a job for other areas, and we have to accept that. Apart from that, we are limited here and we have to accept that, too. But there is still much that can be done to improve our approach here.

BOB: What we are fringing on here is incentives and rewards. What kinds of things could be developed that would in fact be rewards for doing the kinds of

things the System expects from us? For instance; in Ontario they are getting programming in whereby an individual is paid the minimum wage for a day's work. Is that kind of thing possible here?

WILLIE: Well, I'm not saying it is impossible, and I don't see anything wrong with it;but I don't see where much benefit could come out of this kind of thing, and I'll tell you why: if you give an inmate the minimum wage,and then take deductions out for movies, laundry,room and board, sending money to his family, and income tax, he's not going to have much left after all these things have been deducted. He'll have more than he does now but, for the amount of red-tape we would have to go through, I don't see it being worthwhile. Maybe the troubles this approach would bring would be worth going through:the guy would nave the responsibility of handling his own money and taking care of himself, but, at the same time, the whole system would become all that more complicated, and, perhaps, not worth the trouble.

The public reaction to this is a pretty negative thing too. People have complained to me that their husbands could be sent off to prison and make four hundred dollars a month, with free board (they, of course, take for granted that everything is free), and they could stay home and be on welfare (which is not the case, again), and we would be farther ahead to do that. The idea is that they are pretty negative and hostile to any changes that might go in favour of inmates, and they feel the System is going crazy and not doing what it should be doing. So I think there are higher priorities that are more important that we should be getting at. I think a priority that is more important is to get staff doing a good job and working together towards common aims. I think more emphasis needs to be put on these kinds of things than such things as the minimum wage for inmates. To me, minimum wage and day parole trailer situations are sort of side benefits but there are more important things than that.

BOB: I find it interesting that a wife would see four hundred dollars a month and a welfare check as a good trade for her husband.... (laughs)

I used the minimum wage as an example to exemplify an idea,rather than to be taken as a particular approach. But it seems to me that too much of what is going on is not really aimed at solving problems but is more aimed at "the discussing of philosophy than anything else, and I would like to see a new institutional trend that would get us talking about nitty-gritty things that can be done, right now, that will put prisoners in a better position to handle the very real problems they will be facing when they hit the streets.

From my viewpoint, one of the things that has got to happen is that institutional people have got to find ways to motivate people to doing practical kinds of things, and the people who do those things have to get rewarded for their efforts.

One thing Edgar Friedenberg said in his article in the COMMUNICATOR is that society is getting more and more envious; people are so afraid somebody is going to get something a little more than they have. This notion seems to point up what the argument is really all about, when Freemen get into complaining anytime a prisoner seems to be getting something. What is ironical about all this is that, because the experience of prison is so negative, and because there are few positive rewards for good work being done, this all ends up working against what the System claims to be wanting to do with its charges.

WILLIE: Yes, that's very true.

BOB: One of the things we are not permitted to do in the COMMUNICATOR is mention the names of staff members -- be it for positive or negative reasons. I wonder if you could make comment to what I am about to say? There have been times when we would like to have done a story covering an event that one of our Living Unit people was involved in; a situation where the officer took it upon himself to do something that we consider to be positive, such as taking guys out for a day to a ballgame or to visit with his family; but because we can't use staff names, we couldn't do the story. Could you explain why this policy exists and especially in view of what I've just said?

WILLIE: I don't know how they work it in other institutions as far as the Publisher's Board goes,and what the censorship practices are, but I think staff can be pushed too far, and we have to be careful of that. When the COMMUNICATOR first started -- Eric Fielder has done a terrific job supporting it and helping with ideas and so on -- I think we did go too far in the beginning, and we had hassles with that. I say "we" because I have to take part of the blame for what happened.

We got into naming staff and things like that, and the problems came as flak from the P.S.A.C. (Public Service Alliance Commission), and individual staff members. I have an old saying that applies to this situation: "In this type of work, you sort of have to be able to roll with the punches," and the punches came pretty hard there for a while and it was hard to roll with them.

We had to say, "Look, you better take a second look at what is going on here, because the whole idea of the paper is to communicate, and it's not going to take place if we alienate too many people.

It took a bit of time but the editors started to realize that we had to be concerned with the realities of where we were, and that good things wouldn't happen if we got everyone upset. We decided that we could still get our message across without offending anyone, and that is why no staff names are allowed to be used.

It doesn't matter that the staff member might be doing a good job and something that you admire; it is not a good thing to compare staff: you can't start saying that this guy is good and work out for the best over the long run.

BOB: I've pretty much covered what I wanted to touch on. Is there anything you would like to comment on before closing off?

WILLIE: After eight years here I would like to make mention of the support I got from both staff and inmate. The staff have been pretty understanding towards me, and I've had their support on many occasions when it was difficult to do so.

There have also been many inmates who worked hard to better things around here and I appreciated their efforts, too.

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# Library Affairs

Chuck Parnell

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE NOT FAMILIAR with our library, a bit of background information. The library first opened in 1967, with a total of 500 books. Since that time it has grown into one of the best libraries in any institution in Canada; a fact readily apparent to anyone who has ever visited any of the federal institutions across Canada.

At the present time the library services approximately 400 inmates. There are 9,310 books on the shelves, giving a book/reader ratio higher than most civilian libraries.

The library collection carries books on almost any subject desired, and the popularity of the library is shown in the fact that an average of 670 inmates visit the library each week, reading approximately 1600 books. As many as 2520 books have been drawn in one week.

During the past fiscal year there were 910 new books added to the collection, and it is hoped we'll add at least this many more in the coming year.

An indication of the esteem in which most inmates regard the library is shown in the fact that many inmates, upon leaving the institution, donate their personal books to the library, rather than leave them kicking around the units.

The library also has a very good book bindery, and all paperbacks acquired through donations, purchase, etc. are provided with hard covers to prolong their life. Most books that are damaged through long use, and sometimes misuse, are repaired and put back into circulation.

The library boasts an excellent reference section, which is used extensively by inmates and staff for various studies.

The library also has an inter-library loan service, whereby any book requested by a reader that is not on the shelves can usually be acquired on temporary loan from another library. Many readers take advantage of this service.

Recently the library instituted new service hours, and is now available to inmates and staff members on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays from 1330 to 1530 and 1800 to 2000.

Another popular addition to the library recently is a tape collection, consisting of 45 eight track tapes and 48 cassette tapes. These tapes are available, two to a person, for a period of seven days. All of the tapes are in constant circulation, and for the most part are well cared for by the borrowers. During the coming year this collection will be added to appreciably.

There is a varied selection of current popular magazines available at the library each month, and several daily and weekly newspapers from various Maritime centers are distributed to the units daily.

In the near future a new lighting system will be installed in the library, and new furniture wll be acquired.

There is a small problem of overdue books occasionally, but usually a gentle reminder is all that is required to have overdue books returned. Co-operation of readers in returning books on time enhances the efficiency of the library in supplying reader's needs.

The library takes pride in its service to readers, and your continued co-operation will help to fulfill your requirements in the future.

* * * * *

# video-com

(Formerly MTI Group)

by c.b. dunlop

ALMOST A YEAR-AND-A-HALF AGO THE N.F.B. initiated a program here in Springhill, to utilize video equipment in an attempt to communicate prisoner's feelings to the surrounding communities. This was done under their sub-group, "Challenge for Change." Some of us here may still be familiar with this program. For those who aren't, the group of up to 24 indiv-iduals taped informal rap sessions for several months. These tapes were then edited into a concise 20 minute version. This tape was then taken out to various organizations, such as the Chamber of Commerce (Springhill), the Citizen's Advisory Board (Amherst), the Knights of Columbus (Springhill), for their viewing pleasure, or displeasure as in the case of the Knights of Columbus. After these groups viewed the tapes, their responses were recorded and put into a tape -- again, approximately 20 minutes long.

Just recently, on February 12th, DON WHITTEN and I, two of the last few re-maining active members of this group, went out to Mount Allison University, Sackville, to show both of these tapes to the Sociology Club there. This had been arranged through PROF. TOM GOFF of the Sociology Department at Mount A.,the REV. PAUL CROSBY and myself.

The reason we felt these students would be interested in these tapes is because of their own interests in social behav-ior, and also we hoped to open their eyes a little more to what we see is go-ing on in the field of corrections and, especially, Springhill Institution.

The meeting was held in Tweeder Hall. Needless to say, it was a friendly at-mosphere, with sofas and a fireplace in the Hall. After viewing of the tapes we got into an informal rap with the 20 or so students and three professors that showed up. We covered a wide range of topics from better family relations for men in prison to the now defunct T.C. Alliance Co-op Ltd. (An arts and crafts co-operative that used to function out of Number Ten Unit). There seemed to be a great deal of interest in the latt-er.

Looking back on the experience at Tweeder Hall, I can see that we succeed-ed in portraying our ideas, and there was a definite positive feeling expressed by the students, as well as by Prof. Goff. The next step is to arrange, hope-fully, a tour for these students through Springhill Institution so that they can get a look at our facilities. I could see that the Con-tact tape (what we have called it) needs a vital overhaul. It was produced some time ago and many of the things expressed have been done or are in the stages of being implemented.

The idea of communication through video is very exciting and has some very heavy possibilities. The viewing of these tapes by students of sociology carries even more possibilities since the majority of our Classification here are or have been students in the same field. So looking ahead, we might be safe in assuming that one or more of these students will have some input into this institution and, more than likely, because of their youth this input would be refreshing as well as rewarding.

Video is a dimension of its own, and by utilizing it to its fullest potential, we can hope to reach "free" citizens in a media-oriented way in the hopes of tuning them into our wave length.

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# It Happens Every Year

**Robert Horan**

"NO!" I STATED EMPHATICALLY. "I'VE HAD MY FILL OF WORKING ON YOUR DILAPIDATED pile of junk."

"That's just great!" My brother John put on his most dejected expression and pac-ed thoughtfully across the room. He stopped near the fire-place before he spoke a-gain. "If you weren't going to help me,you should have said so long ago. Why wait until now?" Before I could answer, he continued "Racing starts this Saturday night and here I am without a mechanic. It's too late to get someone to help me now." He paused just long enough to let his words sinks in; then concluded, "A fine fix that leaves me in."

I was filled with guilt but nevertheless firm. "No dice," I said. "You're not conning me into that this year." It was my turn to be dramatic; "For the past three years I've worked my heart out to keep that pile of junk you call a racing car in one piece.... And what have I got to show for it? Nothing! Nothing but skinned knuckles, dirty clothes, and a sailor's vocabulary. No sir! I've worked on that

I would have been quite content to let the matter rest there but John wasn't about to give up: "You don't seem to realize just what this means to me" he remarked. "I want to race so bad I'll pay you in hard-earned cash to give me a hand."

"Look at it from my side, John. For the past three years I have spent my summer weekends working on a run-down pile of junk that is forever in need of repair. Week after week I've worked my heart out to keep that car running -- and for what? Why, I've never even had the satisfaction of driving it. Not once!"

John suddenly saw the answer: his first impulse was to reject the thought of me driving his beloved car, but his desperation would not allow that; he shrugged his shoulders in resignation and said, "Okay! If you help me to get it running for this Saturday, you can drive it the following week."

My acceptance of his offer did little to lift his spirits.

We left early Saturday morning for my uncle's farm where old "26" had spent a bitterly cold winter in the solitude of the apple orchard. The battered warrior of many races didn't appear outwardly to be suffering from her latest ordeal; nonetheless, there was much to be done, to prepare her for the races. Hibernation, I was sure, had left our beloved pile of junk a little listless.

I started in with some under-the-hood work, while John removed two tires that had gone flat through the winter.

"I'm going to slip into town and get these tires blown up," he announced. "You can clean the plugs, change the oil and tie down the gas tank while I am gone."

After I told him what he could do, I went back to work. He was mumbling something about "intolerable independence" as he threw the flat tires into the trunk of his car. I was too busy wiring the battery down to notice his remark, but it was impossible not to notice the way that he drove from the orchard. The car sped crazily amid the trees, as John vented his anger over my remark. When he disappeared, I could almost hear the trees sigh with relief. I shook my head, and returned to work.

When he returned about two hours later, I was sitting comfortably under an apple tree enjoying a cigarette. Two robins, who were fluttering about in search of nest-building material, held my attention. John disapproved of the pastime.

"Come on!" he bellowed, "We'll never get this thing going."

"Some guy you are to talk," I retorted. "I've spent the past two hours trying to put life into this monster while you've spent the same time doing a twenty-minute job. No wonder I get fed up."

As I rattled off the list of repairs I had made to old "26" while he was away getting air, he relented a little. I announced that she would be ready to start when I put the wheels on. He was downright pleased. To show his appreciation, he even helped me to put them back on.

With a length of chain connecting the two cars, I towed John about the orchard. Old "26" failed to respond to John's attempts to start it, but she did manage to leave deep skid marks the whole length of the orchard. This was to later arouse the anger of my uncle.

I was mentally diagnosing the possible causes for the car's reluctance to start, when the answer struck me. A quick feel of my trouser pockets confirmed my suspicion; the rotor! I had forgotten to replace the rotor when I was cleaning the distributor.

With the rotor replaced, old "26" finally came to life. The unmuffled roar of her eight cylinders filled the countryside with spine-tingling vibrations that stirred at my very soul. Even the cattle in a neighboring field momentarily set aside their grazing to admire the mighty roar of the usually silent beast.

Swept with enthusiasm, I shouted, "She sounds a lot better with the rotor, doesn't she?"

John, too, was under the spell of the noisy old car. With gleaming eyes, he shifted her into gear and roared around the orchard. The back wheels left deep gouges in the soft earth and a spray of mud in her wake. It was a sight to behold but I knew my uncle would not see things in the same light. Reluctantly, I flagged John down and suggested that we clear out.

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At the track, old "26" sprinted about like a colt turned out to pasture. By the time the evening was over she had carried John to a second, and two third place finishes. I was truly proud of her.

As we towed the old warrior back to the farm, my mind was filled with thoughts of the following Saturday -- the night when I would be the pilot. I pictured myself bobbing and weaving my way around the quarter-mile circuit using the same techniques men like Sterling Moss, Parnelli Jones, and Roger Ward use.

John broke the silence. "What did you think of the way I got cut off in the third race?"

I couldn't recall the incident but, being a diplomat, I sympathized, "Too bad! Really, it was. I think you would have won if you hadn't got boxed in." I remained silent for a moment, then remarked, "I just hope she's running as good next week as she was tonight."

"She was running good," John admitted, "but we've got to do something about that rear-end. She was lifting in the corners. All the ground I gained on the straightaways was lost in the corners." He paused, as if in search of the answer, and finished with "We're going to have to figure a better way of tying her down if I'm going to win one next week." He paused expectantly, and I didn't fail him.

"Aren't you forgetting that I'm driving next week?" I asked.

When he looked at me with an "oh, that" expression, my brotherly love turned to something akin to hatred. I felt completely betrayed and was trying to decide upon the best means of retaliation. John must have detected what was going on in my mind because, before I could form what I felt into words, he said, "All right, alright, take it easy!"

In the conversation that followed John agreed to make good his promise, and he further agreed to let me drive more often as the season progressed if I proved to be competent. In exchange for the chance to drive, I promised my mechanical talents for the remainder of the season. We even shook on it.

By the following Saturday my friends were starting to withdraw from me,and I found it hard to understand the reason for it. Well do I know why now! I shamefully admit that the prospects of becoming a racing car driver turned me into a braggart. I never passed up an opportunity to tell my associates of the strategy that I planned for the big day. I would conclude the story by painting a picture of me driving the checkered flag past the grandstand, with a host of cheering fans urging me on. Fortunately, I had the good sense not to divulge all of the things that crossed my mind because a lot of it was pretty far-fetched: no longer did I picture myself in the same class as Sterling Moss, Parnelli Jones, and Roger Ward; they were just amateurs by my side. At one time, in fact, I visualized Sterling Moss asking me how I managed to remain so calm while driving races like the Le Manns, The Indie "500," and the Mexican Road Race.

I answered in a manner that surpassed Perry Como for casualness; "What's the sense of getting excited? It's only a race."

"But aren't you afraid of meeting with serious injury -- or even death?" he persisted.

Without an instant's hesitation, I replied, "If your time is up, it's up. There is no point in getting upset about it." Then, as if to add insult to injury, I added, "You know, Sterling, you would drive a better race if you weren't such a worrywart."

When we arrived at the track the following Saturday,I went to work on the car with unusual enthusiasm. Within an hour I had the rear-end tied down, the tires changed, and the timing set to perfection. While I made the last minute adjustments, my excitement mounted. When I fastened myself to the seat, and buckled the safety helmet to my somewhat swelled head, I was ready to go. Amid a pile of ignored "do's" and "don'ts" shouted in desperation by my well-meaning brother, "26" and I headed for the track.

The track, a quarter-mile asphalt oval with bleachers running the length of the west side, is surrounded by unpacked beach-sand. Just how tricky beach-sand can be was forcefully demonstrated to me on my first lap.

I left the pit area utterly hypnotized by the thunderous roar of the flat-head Ford engine which vibrated furiously to my slightest touch. With the clutch disengaged, I playfully flicked the gas pedal to the floor in quick spurts. With each downward motion of my foot, old "26" let go with a fearful roar. She sounded similar to a hound that has had its tail stepped on.

I entered the track at the top end of the home stretch, and pressed the gas pedal hard to the floor. The car let go with a mighty roar and streaked by the grandstands like something possessed. It wasn't until I was well into the first corner that I remembered to ease off on the gas. Despite my frantic efforts to check her, she edged her way to the high side of the track. About half-way through the turn, her right front wheel skid off the asphalt onto the soft sand that borders the track. The sand brought the wheel to a sudden and determined halt. Unfortunately, the rear

wheels were not quite as willing to cease motion, and I started to realize the magnitude of the situation when the rear-end lifted high into the air. I clung desperately to the steering wheel and tried to imagine how Sterling Moss would get himself out of this one. When things came to a standstill, I found myself sitting in a car with the ground above my head, and the sky at my feet. For a moment, I found the world an extremely confusing place.

I unsnapped the safety belt and scrambled from the wreckage in time to see the track ambulence come speeding from the pit area. With its siren blaring frantically, it raced towards the fatal corner. My first impulse was to warn the driver of the danger that lurked in that corner; then I saw John, with clenched fists, running across the infield. His eyes reflected an angry disgust that betrayed no intentions of counting to ten. I decided that it was every man for himself and left the ambulance driver to negotiate his own turn, and headed for the bush that surrounds the track. I had only gone a few steps when I remembered that John can run faster than I can. I preferred facing him with the ambulance handy to having him overtake me in the solitude of the bush, so I reluctantly walked back to the overturned car.

"Are you alright?" the driver of the ambulance shouted. He stared at me with a puzzled expression. I suppose he expected me to account for my running about. I didn't offer any explanation.

Instead, I said, "Yes, I'm okay, but you better not go yet." I cast a worried look in John's direction before adding, "I'm expecting an attack." That remark, I am sure, only served to puzzle him further. My thoughts were a little scattered.

The tow truck and John arrived simultaneously. Neither wasted much time starting the job I had created for them.

"What, pray heaven, are you trying to do?" John shouted.

I thought of the time my mother caught me stealing her cookies; the feeling was remarkably similar, so I decided to handle John as I had taken care of her. I looked remorseful and said nothing.

"I've been driving that car for three years," he continued, "and I've brought it out of more than a hundred races with nothing worse than a few scratches." He looked at me contemptuously. "But you! You couldn't even manage to bring it around one lap on an empty track without upsetting it. You call yourself a driver! Why you couldn't drive a wheelbarrow."

John walked towards the car wearing a smug look of superiority, while I remained by the ambulance under the stare of a multitude of curious eyes. I was humiliated by John's verbal attack.

When I felt that he was out of hearing range, I mumbled to myself, but loud enough for those around me to hear, "My, my! Isn't he just perfect!"

Sure, now, that the worst was in the past, I dismissed the ambulance driver and went over to offer my assistance to the towing crew. They had the car pretty well gathered together when I arrived.

When I checked the car over back in the pits, I found that she was surprisingly little the worse for her ordeal; aside from a couple of new dents, her only real loss was the gas, oil, and water that had drained away while she was on her roof. With these things replaced, old "26" purred as contentedly as an old mother cat. My lost courage returned.

"You know, John," I ventured, "you didn't do so good on your first night of racing either. I recall you smashing into the wall at Crestpine Raceway during the warm-ups. Who knows! If the wall hadn't been there to stop you, you might have rolled too."

Then came the totally unexpected: "Alright! Have another go at it, but so help me, if you don't take it easy...." His voice trailed off leaving the consequences for me to imagine.

This decision flabbergasted me, and the only explanation that I can offer for it is brotherly love. However, I was not seeking motives -- only the opportunity to redeem myself. I immediately started to ready "26" for the races.

As the first-heat cars were leaving the pit area,I was painstakingly giving John's car a last minute going over. My respect for the stout-hearted old vehicle was at its highest point, I was mentally taking back all the harsh things I had called it during the past three years, when John came puffing across the pit area.

"Hurry up!" he yelled. "You're supposed to be in the first race and the cars are already at the track."

Trying hard to suppress my mounting panic, I joined the ignition wires and fastened the seat belt. John helped me with the helmet and shouted last minute instructions.

"Just take it easy until you get the feel of it," he said. "And this time, don't forget to turn when you get to the corners!"

I didn't appreciate his sarcasm but I said nothing.

The other cars had completed the warm-up lap and were in the hands of the starter when I roared onto the track. It was too late to claim my starting position so I fell in at the tail of the procession. This didn't concern me because I wanted to

avoid the traffic for the first few laps.

When the starter dropped the green flag, I pushed the gas hard to the floor and sped crazily past the stands. When I reached the first turn, I eased up on the gas and hugged tight to the inside of the track. Upon reaching the back-stretch, I accelerated hard.

"Nothing to it," I thought.

Everything went as planned until the start of the eighth lap, when the lead cars started to catch up to me. Car number 31 and car 61 were running a neck-and-neck race when, as fate would have it, all three of us entered the first corner. 61 was to my rear on the inside, while 31 was to my back on the outside. As we left the turn that leads to the back-stretch, 31 struck my right rear corner with its left front corner. The impact was so forceful that I soon found myself racing backwards down the back-stretch in the direct path of car 61. 61 made a frantic swerve to the right to avoid colliding with me, but its side scraped at 26's front-end as we sped by. The force of the second blow sent 26 and me well into the infield amid a cloud of settling dust and rising steam. As 31 raced on to victory, I cursed bitterly.

A quick survey of the damage confirmed what I had feared: the radiator was pushed back over the engine, and the engine was twisted well over to the driver's side of the car. The front motor mounts were broken away from the frame, and the distributor was crushed beyond recognition. As if this was not enough, the front wheels looked bashfully away from one another, and they were flat. Without hesitation, I threw the safety helmet into the front seat and headed for the safety of the bush. On that unhappy note, my career as a racing car driver ended.

When I arrived home two days later, John's anger had turned to genuine concern. He welcomed me back with open arms, and in return for his forgiveness, I volunteered to stay on as his mechanic for the remainder of the season. By the following Saturday, I had old "26" raring to go again.

This morning I was talking to Jim Moreno. He was telling me that he's taking his car to have the roll bars welded in this afternoon.

"Just two weeks until the season starts," he was saying.

I guess I better start rehearsing what I'll be saying.

"No!" I will say. "I'm absolutely fed up with working on your dilapidated pile of junk."

I'll bet he talks me into it. It happens every year.

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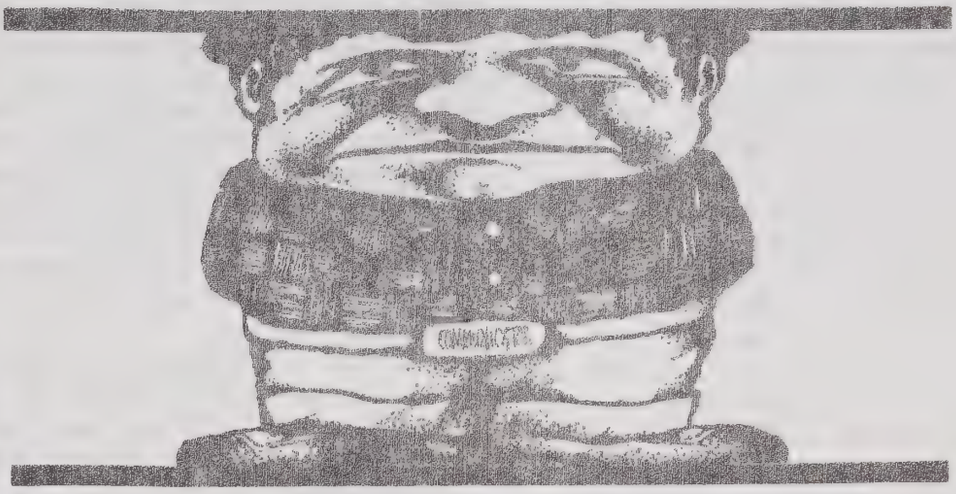

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# OPEN FORUM
## Voice of the people

8th Jan., 1975.
Grandique, N.B.

The Communicator,
SPRINGHILL, N.S.

Warm Greetings!

Haven't felt better since I've been reading you; I regret not having earlier issues but you have captured my highest esteem and I will continue subscribing as long as you exist. It's nice to know what's happening in there and that you're all insanely beautiful people (meant as a compliment). I wish to thank Bob Eby for his article "It's About That Time" which expresses exactly what I meant to say. If I could figure out a solution,I'd carry it out for you. We could, a group of us females, get together as a visiting group and come to see all of you. I'm sure it would prove an enriching exchange of ideas for both of us.

"Torture Cure" left me open-mouthed; I find it hard to believe, and harder not to. It's like saying you have no right to even think of anything illegal or criminal, while I'm sure everyone has had similar thoughts at one time or another. I'd like for those quacky doctors to have a good dose of their own medicine. How can people like them actually be permitted and supported to go about their sick business? Am I to believe there are more like them in authority? I shudder to think of their future plans; why they're as bad as Hitler -- if not worse. Ahh! It's a bad rush altogether!

I fear for prisoners who must suffer to think it may one day happen to them or their children. To become a guinea pig for someone's bloody game, to become a vegetable or a zombie; I wonder if there's anything to be done about it?

I came across but one French article, in your June issue, and have long since wondered why you remain to be so English. There must be Frenchmen who would appreciate material written in French or who would contribute of their writings. Anyway, I am sending you two of mine and some in English; you've inspired me to write and I will continue to gather my thoughts for you.

As time rests heavily within my hands, I'd love to help you guys in any possible way I can. Please feel free to suggest anything as I eagerly await to be of service.

I also think you should be included in high school reading material for students to know what prisons are like. They may think twice next time they feel like shoplifting or making a break and enter.

Take care and
keep on being!

Carm Gallant.

---

OTTAWA, Ontario

The Editor,
COMMUNICATOR.

6 Feb. 1975.

Dear Sir:

Whilst staying with friends in Kingston, Nova Scotia over the Christmas holidays, I read your very interesting newspaper. On one particular page you were calling for women to write to you with views and opinions on what is going on outside. Well, I don't really know how to begin this letter to you but I will try to make it as interesting as possible.

I am an ordinary housewife living in the West End of Ottawa with my husband and 4 year old daughter.

The articles in your paper were very enlightening insofar as we on the outside don't really know what you have to contend with in the inside.

Quite frankly, life here is pretty hard. We have employment problems, economic problems,social problems, racial problems etc. - in fact I could go on with a list a mile long if I really wanted to.

It may surprise you to know that there are quite a number of people who really do care about you people inside Penal Institutions and I know from my husband's experiences in the Pembroke area, that it can be really hard for a person to re-adjust himself when eventually released from prison.

My husband's job in Pembroke was as Manager of a large lumber company and occasionally he would be approached by someone with the question "would you hire an ex-convict to work for you?" My husband would always answer "yes" because he feels, as I do, that someone, somewhere has to give you a chance to start over again.

I know that there are also a vast majority of people who will turn a blind cheek and refuse point blank that they want anything to do with you. That to me is very unfair and speaks strongly of prejudism in the extreme. Unfortunately, our society is such that there will always be that majority who will not give you a chance.

I sincerely feel that our country (and I say this lightly because I am not Canadian but British) is literally

going downhill at the moment and something has to give sooner or later, otherwise we are going to have another depression like in the 30's.

At the moment in Ottawa, there is also another problem with the French-speaking people. Unfortunately this makes it hard for anyone - like myself - to find a decent job without having this so-called second language. This really makes me mad whenever I am asked to consider taking a French language course just to get a job. If I had wanted to speak another language, I would have emigrated to France and not Canada. But unfortunately we are stuck with it right now and have to put up with it I guess.

Well, I think I have put down a few viewpoints of my own and hope this will give you a short insight of what's going on here.

Thank you for thinking of putting the ad in the paper and I wish all of you inside lots of luck when you get out. At least you have one supporter on the outside!!

If you wish any further comments etc. please feel free to write to me.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) C. Muriel Vradenburg

---

**Prison Arts Foundation**

143 Fifth Avenue
BRANTFORD, Ont.
N3S 1A3
(519) 752-7405

January 28, 1975.

Mr. Ivan Paracy, Editor,
Communicator,
Springhill Institution,
Box 2140,
Springhill, Nova Scotia.
B0M 1X0.

Dear Mr. Paracy:

We are writing to ask your assistance in announcing the commencement of Prison Arts 75, our sixth annual collection and exhibition of Canadian inmate arts and crafts. We would like to invite every artist, writer and craftsman in all Canadian correctional institutions to enter Prison Arts 75, which will be our most outstanding exhibition ever! The collection will be presented at the United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of the Offender, from September 1 to 14, 1975 in Toronto.

Along with Canadian entries, guest exhibits from other countries throughout the world will be displayed. This will be the first international exhibition of inmate arts and crafts ever held, and we are proud to display the creative works from Canadian prisons with those of other countries.

A number of excellent awards and scholarships will be offered to Canadian Prison Arts 75 entrants, and as soon as these arrangements have been completed, we will forward full information for publication.

We will also publish our annual booklet, "Words From Inside", featuring creative writing entries, and we look forward to receiving works from all poets, playwrights and authors.

The deadline date for Prison Arts 75 is June 30, 1975. Full information is given in the enclosed entry form. Supplies of entry forms are available through hobbycraft, social development officers, and directors of every adult institution in Canada. Entrants may also write to our office for forms or for information: Prison Arts Foundation, 143 Fifth Avenue, Brantford, Ontario. N3S 1A3.

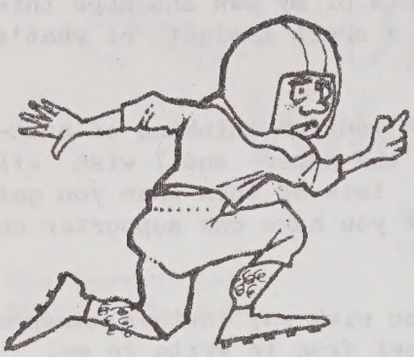
We would appreciate your help in publicizing Prison Arts 75 and will keep you informed of future developments, including the awards list, opening exhibition plans, the exhibition tour itinerary and the announcement of winners.

Yours sincerely,

Marnie Knechtel

Mrs. D. F. Knechtel
Executive Director
Prison Arts Foundation

EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE RAY WOLFE, ARTS AND CRAFTS INSTRUCTOR ON THIS.....



# Time For SPORTS REVIEW

Bob Dunsford Sports Reporter

## Hockey

WELL, OUR HOCKEY SEASON IS OVER AND NUMBER EIGHT UNIT have been crowned Champs. After eliminating UNIT NINE in two close games in the semi-finals, they met a determined but outclassed UNIT ELEVEN team. NUMNER ELEVEN gained a berth in the finals by virtue of a 4-3 overtime win in the third game of a best of three. UNIT TEN won all regular season games and the first game of the semi-finals but NUMBER ELEVEN came on to defeat them in the next two. UNIT EIGHT and NUMBER ELEVEN met head-to-head in the finals and NUMBER EIGHT, led by the scoring of PETER (MARIO) STUBBARD and JIM BOONE swept the best of five finals three games straight.

I would like to extend my congratulations to NUMBER EIGHT and the men who refereed the games also deserve a hearty vote of thanks.

"ALL-STAR HOCKEY"

SINCE WE FOUND ICE-TIME IN AMHERST, our all-star team is working feverishly to keep our unbeaten streak in the ANNUAL COPS-CONS GAME IN TRURO.

The date is March 24th and it promises to be a good and exciting game. We are having some trouble with getting some of our guys T.L.A.'s but we will be strong enough for the Mounties come March.

Hope to see you all there.

"BADMINTON"

THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF GOOD BADMINTON played in the gym lately and,since it is not organized, I would like to suggest a tournament while the interest in the game is running high. UNIT TEN is still the doubles champs, so I'm sure 8, 9 and 11 will be looking for revenge.

STANDINGS IN THE DART LEAGUE

AS OF JANUARY 31st.

| | |
|---|---|
| NUMBER EIGHT UNIT: | 10 points |
| NUMBER NINE UNIT: | 8 points |
| NUMBER TEN UNIT: | 6 points |
| NUMBER ELEVEN UNIT: | 6 points |

NUMBER EIGHT HIGH SCORES:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| HIGH START..... | BAGNELL | 110 |
| HIGH FINISH..... | MacLEOD | 98 |
| HIGH SCORE..... | PARNELL | 137 |
| | MacLEOD | 120 |
| | GOSBY | 120 |

NUMBER NINE HIGH SCORES:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| HIGH START..... | BROWN | 126 |
| HIGH FINISH..... | HOOPER | 104 |
| HIGH SCORE..... | HOOPER | 140 |

NUMBER TEN HIGH SCORES:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| HIGH START..... | GALLANT | 80 |
| HIGH FINISH..... | MILES | 72 |
| HIGH SCORE..... | GALLANT | 140 |

NUMBER ELEVEN HIGH SCORES:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| HIGH START..... | DENNIS | 130 |
| HIGH FINISH..... | BILLIE | 110 |
| HIGH SCORE..... | AUGESTIAN | 160 |

HIGH SCORE FOR LEAGUE PLAY:

| | |
|---|---|
| UNIT NUMBER ELEVEN; AUGESTIAN | 160 |

P.O. Box # 2140, SPRINGHILL, NOVA SCOTIA

5.00

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The COMMUNICATOR

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